

UFO

NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

U.F.O. NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

ROUTE 1 — BOX 220

PLUMERVILLE, ARKANSAS 72127 U.S.A.

CO-EDITORS: LUCIUS FARISH
ROD B. DYKE

NOVEMBER 1983 NUMBER 172

Are the UFOs Becoming Obsolete?

By Matt Seiden

Baltimore Sun
Baltimore.

A "Thing" flew across the road the other night. It looked like a giant, backward check mark or a lopsided V, made up of seven flashing green and red lights and one white one.

It looked about as big as a jumbo jet looks when it's about to land, but the Thing still seemed to be several thousand feet up in the dark sky and didn't seem to be landing — and, anyway, who's ever seen a jumbo jet shaped like a backward check mark?

Strangest of all, we couldn't hear any noise coming from the Thing as it crossed directly above us, rising and heading northeast.

We pulled off the road, shut off the engine, jumped out of the car and watched in amazement. The other cars on the highway just sped by.

That was a week ago on Interstate 84, east of the Taconic State Parkway, in New York. When I got home, I decided it was my patriotic duty to report the Thing.

This turned out to be no easy matter.

First I called the state police. "This may sound a little crazy," I said, trying to sound as sane as I could, "but I want to report a UFO."

"We don't handle UFOs," a bored voice said. "Try the U.S. Air Force."

I called Washington.

"I want to report a UFO."

"I'm sorry, but the Air Force hasn't monitored UFOs since 1969. UFOs are no longer considered a threat to national security."

"How can you be so sure about that?"

"I don't know, sir, but that was an official determination."

"Oh." The Air Force officer suggested calling one of several private organizations such as the Society for Investigating the Unexplained, Vestigia, or the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena.

I thought the last name on the list sounded the most level-headed.

"We don't do UFOs any more," a young woman said at the number the Air Force had supplied. "We refer these calls to Glen View, Ill."

Sherman Larsen, a retired life insurance salesman, answered at the Illinois number.

"We get about 1,500 reports a year," Larsen said. "About 10 percent are definite enough for us to investigate. We have 150 volunteer investigators around the country, and lots of carefully documented sightings. I've been doing this since 1953."

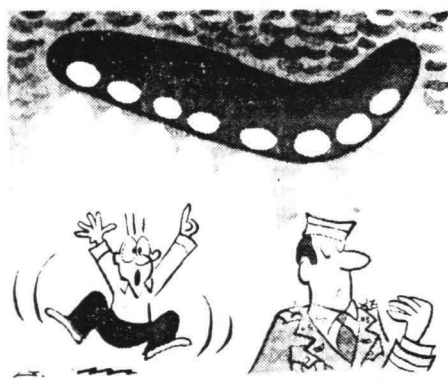
Had any of the UFOs appeared hostile?

"One time a young fellow shot a rifle at one of them and the next thing he knew he was flat on his back. But they don't usually bother you as long as you don't bother them."

Larsen promised to send me a "sighting report" to fill out. In the meantime, I decided to investigate a little further.

First, I called the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, which is about 10 miles south of the place where the Thing crossed the highway, as the crow — or Thing — flies. I told my story.

"I wouldn't believe that if I saw it myself," a public affairs person said. He also said West Point had



— Staff Illustration.

no planes in the sky that night that could have been mistaken for a UFO.

I called the nearest commercial airport, in Newburgh, N.Y.

They had a People's Express training flight taking off and landing repeatedly between 8:30 and midnight that night, but the training flight pattern did not seem to match the trajectory of the UFO.

I called the Stormville flying club.

"Yep," a woman there said. "Those guys were out last Saturday night. I know because I saw them. There was a church carnival up at Hopewell Junction and they went floating over the carnival a little after 10 p.m. and they were coming from the southwest so that would have put them over the interstate about when you saw them, and they would have been heading northeast, straight for the carnival, sure enough. I think they cut off the engines and flash the lights just to spook people."

"First time I saw them I thought I was going crazy," she said.

I told her I was glad to know we hadn't imagined the Thing. On the other hand, an unidentified flying object was a lot more exciting than an identified one.

"Sorry to burst your bubble," she said.

So much for close encounters of that kind.

COALFIELD-PROGRESS, Norton, VA
Sept. 29, 1983

Women view strange object in sky near Duncan Gap

DUNCAN GAP — It seemed like an ordinary enough Wednesday night. A few clouds scattered across the sky in this rural section of Wise County.

In a short while, Nancy B. Mullins' husband would finish his shift at Paramount Coal Co. Mullins, her two children and her sister-in-law, Nancy M. Mullins, prepared to leave to pick him up in Norton. As the four rode along Route 640, sometimes called the Duncan

Gap road, Nancy M. Mullins gazed thoughtlessly at the sky. Her eyes widened as her glance encompassed a strange object overhead in the vicinity of Marco Coal Co. at about 11 p.m. "I saw a big light in the sky, as big as a house, with beams coming from it," she says. Startled at the sight, she quickly called the object to the attention of her sister-in-law.

"She kept hollering and said look over there and I looked up and it was huge and it lit up the whole sky," Nancy B. Mullins says. Eyes set on the object, the two watched as it descended, says Nancy M. Mullins. "It scared us all to death," Nancy M. Mullins says. At that point, they drove to a relative's home, before continuing to Norton. Remembering the object vividly, both described more details about its appearance.

"It had a long, brown thing with something like a room on the end of it," Nancy M. Mullins says. "It was crystal-like," Nancy B. Mullins explains. "It was white and glimmered." Nancy M. Mullins says she called the Lonesome Pine Airport to see if anyone else had reported such an object, but no one had. Dr. Bill Hooper, who is in charge of the observatory at Clinch Valley in the sky.

College, commented on the women's observations. Hooper recalled a cloudy sky and a full moon that night. After listening to the details, Hooper said it would be difficult to determine what the object was. "I can't imagine what it was. Maybe it was a star or a planet or the moon, Hooper speculated. He offered a personal experience where he once saw a circular object in the sky.

"It was the classic description of a flying saucer," he said. Hooper said he observed the object, which appeared to have windows, for some time. Finally, he realized it was the moon in a crescent shape. The trees in front of the moon had given it the appearance of having windows, he said. "And these people may have seen something very familiar in a very unfamiliar setting," he said.

Return of the UFO

We let pass without comment the reports several days ago about the unidentified flying objects near the Browns Ferry Nuclear Power Plant in Limestone County. After all, over the years we've seen UFO flaps come and go and they definitely seem to run in cycles — although we've never determined exactly what the cycle is.

By the same token, we generally are hesitant to pass judgment on those who say they have seen strange objects and lights in the sky, especially when the witnesses are the likes of law enforcement officers, public officials and ministers. When we saw the photos of the folks waiting in the field all night with their cameras, we weren't too surprised, but we didn't expect them to turn up anything.

Then came the discovery of the three orange and translucent garbage bags, filled with helium and with flashlights that were found Monday night in a field near the Browns Ferry Plant. We chuckled over the obvious hoax and figured the persons who reported the UFO sightings must have felt relieved to learn that they had seen something anyway.

But then, almost like the chilling twist at the end of an old horror film, a Limestone County deputy reported that in the pre-dawn hours Wednesday his patrol car was pursued by a strange bright light as he drove toward Athens. The deputy reported that when he would speed up, the UFO would do likewise and only when he approached the city limits of Athens, did the light veer off. Other law enforcement officers also reported they saw strange lights that night.

Perhaps an elaborate hoax is continuing — we may never know. If it is a hoax, however, we'd like to meet the perpetrators, for we can't help but admire them for their ingenuity, as misdirected as it is.

BULLETIN, Bend, OR

Oct. 26, 1983

UFO sighting reported

An observer at Pine Mountain Observatory east of Bend reported an unidentified flying object Tuesday evening over the sparsely settled Fort Rock region.

No other reports were logged, however, of what the observer described as multi-colored lights that flew north from the Fort Rock area over the observatory and then disappeared to the west, towards Bend.

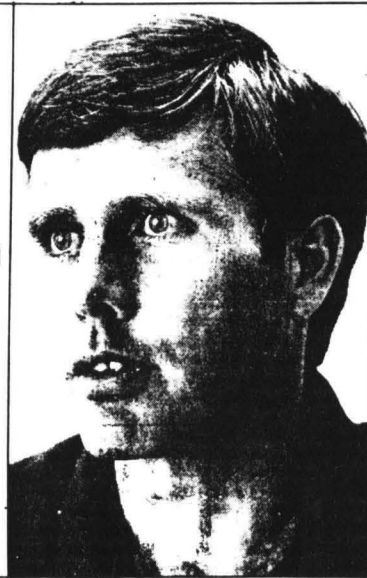
The sighting was relayed from the observatory to University of Oregon Professor Jim Kemp in Eugene.

Kemp, who supervises the observatory, called Oregon State Police in Bend sometime after 8 p.m., according to the police log.

Kemp said today that a research assistant, Dan Kraus, reported the incident.

UFOs

Some sightings may be valid, says scientist



... Surveys show that most people who have reported UFOs are intelligent, well-educated and not nuts' — Dr. Cordell.

experienced by people who have been exposed to saucer craft are also valid evidence.

"In addition to effects that are similar to radiation sickness, these people also have psychological trauma," says Cordell.

Now there are many groups interested in exploring UFOlogy for a variety of reasons, according to Cordell. Under the Freedom of Information Act which allows civilians to sue the government for the release of documents that do not pose a threat to national security, one UFO group has obtained documents that indicate the Central Intelligence Agency has a long-standing, but completely covert, interest in UFOs.

Another group, Citizens Against UFO Secrecy, claims the government is holding hostage extraterrestrial humanoids.

"It appears that many government agencies have a lot of data about UFOs but they may not know exactly what it means," says Cordell.

The world of UFOlogists is rife with reports of the capture of crashed saucer craft, but the most credible seems to be the account of a craft that fell to earth at Edwards Air Force Base in the '50s. Allegedly the craft was inspected and pronounced authentic by top government and military officials, religious and civic leaders. Apparently it was decided not to make the discovery public for fear of throwing the country into a state of panic, according to Cordell, but there are people alive today who were there and who claim they saw the saucer.

Most rumors of crashed saucer craft include reports of finding humanoid bodies on board, which at least obliquely has given rise to the "deception theory," the second most popular hypothesis about UFOs. According to this theory, UFOs are part of a scheme to facilitate social change by either uniting or controlling the world through fear of conquest by creatures from outer space.

Though he is intrigued by the

deception theory because it seems to explain certain otherwise inexplicable aspects of UFOlogy, Cordell calls the concept of saucer craft manned by intelligent extraterrestrials "sound."

If we could make contact with visiting extraterrestrials, it "could potentially be the greatest discovery in the history of mankind," Cordell declares. "Any civilization that can travel between the stars is clearly superior to ours. We could learn a great deal from them about physics and propulsion systems," he said.

The scientist is equally convinced that the government knows more about UFOs than it is willing to admit. Why information is being withheld is a matter for further speculation.

"They could view intelligently manned saucer craft as a threat to national security or as a threat to big business. After all, we wouldn't need oil anymore if we could learn to build the propulsion systems extraterrestrials use to travel between the stars," says Cordell.

He believes there are crashed or captured saucer craft stashed away somewhere in the United States which have been subjected to extensive but fruitless scientific scrutiny.

"We are probably too primitive scientifically to understand the models," he allows.

Cordell is a serious scientist who earned his doctorate after completing advanced studies at UCLA and the University of Arizona. He has been a research fellow at CalTech and is on the faculty at California State University, Bakersfield.

He will detail more of the facts and fantasies of the world of UFOlogy in his upcoming lectures which will be at 7:15 p.m. Aug. 2, 4, 9 and 11 in the Grayson Boehm Lecture Hall of the Reuben H. Fleet Space Center and Theater. There is a \$22 fee for the complete four-lecture series for non-members of the Hall of Science (\$18 for members) or \$6 for individual lectures.

By PAT STEIN
Staff Writer

OCEANSIDE — More than 10 centuries ago the emperor of France issued an edict against people coming down from the sky.

In the same decree, Charlemagne made a prohibition against earthlings going up in the sky with visitors from aloft.

The law was made in the wake of a rash of reported sightings and landings of occupied craft from the heavens and even a few "kidnapings" were noted.

The emperor Charlemagne was not the first person in history to address himself to the issue of extraterrestrials and craft from outer space. Aristotle wrote about discs in the sky and some UFOlogists like to cite Biblical references to unidentified flying objects — the story of Ezekiel, for example, who saw three fiery wheels turning in mid-air.

In the Apocrypha, Enoch (the father of Methuselah) claims to have been taken on a ride to heaven by three advanced beings.

"On earth, centuries passed while Enoch was aware of only days passing. Sophisticated propulsion systems slow time. If we could travel at the speed of light, we could stop the clock," explains Dr. Bruce Cordell, Oceanside geophysicist, planetary scientist, educator and lecturer.

Beginning Tuesday, Aug. 2, Cordell will present a series of four seminars of scientific and speculative evaluation of UFO phenomena and theories at the Reuben H. Fleet Space Center in Balboa Park.

Cordell will explore the question of whether UFOs are "jokes or folks." He defines unidentified flying objects as "anything we see in the sky that we can't identify."

Under certain conditions, planets can be mistaken for UFOs, and Cordell points out that at this particular point in time, the planet Venus shines brilliantly in the Western sky at sunset, Jupiter glimmers in the southern sky and

Saturn glimmers in the southwestern quadrant of the heavens.

These planets are not always so visible and phenomena such as clouds rapidly scudding across the face of the planets can create eerie illusions of motion. For a novice inclined to believe in the existence of UFOs, Cordell says, it might be easy to mistake that illusion for a spacecraft.

Cordell, however, is not a novice and he is inclined to believe in the validity of at least some of the more than 1,000 UFO sightings that are reported annually in the United States. He is one of the few serious scientists who is willing to address himself to the UFO question.

Cordell says he has never seen a UFO himself, but he has interviewed many people who have sighted saucer craft and he does believe they exist on some level.

There are several possible hypotheses about saucer craft, according to Cordell. The most popular one is that they are manned by extraterrestrials and Cordell thinks it's reasonable to assume they are "advanced beings." Those who reject the extra-terrestrial hypothesis ask why, if spacecraft are intelligently manned, the occupants haven't made a greater effort to communicate with earthlings instead of making such apparently random explorations of earth.

"My guess is that they don't find us very interesting," responds Cordell. "To have designed propulsion systems that could carry them to earth, they must be highly evolved scientifically and they probably know they don't have anything to learn from us."

Conversely, if the extra-terrestrial hypothesis is true, Cordell speculates that man could learn a great deal from visitors from outer space. Yet efforts to investigate UFOs have been sporadic at best and always seem to end with the conclusion that there is "nothing of interest in the UFO phenomenon."

Cordell points out that the gov-

UFO coverup?

Believers say U.S. is hiding proof of alien visits

NEWS, Charlotte, NC - Nov. 11, 1983 CR: G. Fawcett

ASSOCIATED PRESS
LINCOLN, Neb. — Lawrence Fawcett says he was a skeptic about UFOs until the afternoon he saw one the size of a Boeing 747 tap a power substation in Manchester, Conn., and blow out the town's electricity.

He says UFOs would make more such appearances but for the hostility of the human race. Larry Bryant, a member of an organization of UFO enthusiasts,

says the federal government is in possession of "disc-shaped objects and small-statured ugly beings or humanoids."

And J. Allen Hynek, head of another UFO group, says he quit an Air Force team studying the UFO phenomenon when it first became a rage after World War II because "the backlog of unexplained cases grew."

Today the three join other UFO enthusiasts for the start of a three-day conference entitled "A

Cosmic Watergate?" It is intended to expose a government coverup "exceeding the Watergate era."

Mr. Bryant says the Air Force has captured some visitors from outer space, and in July he asked a federal court in Washington to order the extraterrestrials be produced.

Mr. Bryant said the "constitutional rights of visitors to this planet" should be considered

Garrett family watching, logging UFO for 6 years

By RICK NEIMILLER
Staff writer

From the porch of their home near Garrett, the members of one family have an uninterrupted view of the hills surrounding the small town.

From that porch they have watched and recorded on four occasions a brightly lit object hovering over one of those hills and then moving swiftly and silently out of view.

The first encounter by the family, who wants to remain anonymous because of their son who is still in school, occurred at 8 p.m. on Sept. 16, 1977. The family is sure of the day and time because they wrote what they saw in a notebook containing family records and events.

"If we don't write it down right away, we'll change it or add to it," one family member remembers saying. "We didn't want to forget it."

In this initial sighting the family watched a brightly lit object in the sky, about 30 degrees above a nearby hill, in the direction of Meyersdale. As it remained stationary, a small red-orange light approached, then seemed to go into the other light. The object then shot off over the northern horizon without a sound.

In the family's notebook is a drawing of what they saw - an object, oval in shape with two bright spotlights. The sighting lasted about 15 minutes.

The family thought it best to keep the incident quiet since no one else reported seeing anything. But, in May of this year, around 8:45 p.m., the object returned.

"It's exactly what we saw before," the son says, who is now in high school, stating that it appeared in the same area of the sky as before. The family says that it hovered over the hill then moved at an angle quickly and silently across the sky, disappearing once

again in the north.

With the warm summer weather the family spent many evenings sitting on the porch, glancing toward the south and hoping that the object would return. On Aug. 21 and Sept. 8, around 9 p.m., it appeared again in the same position. But they were prepared to get a better at it by using a telescope and binoculars.

What they report seeing was a delta-winged object surrounded by a green haze with two lights in the front each made up of smaller lights that moved counter-clockwise. This time though it moved quickly right over them. It was then they noticed six or seven randomly arranged amber lights on its gray-green underside.

"It was enormous," they say, "about the size of a football field." Again it disappeared to the north but on the last occasion the sighting was accompanied by a sound like a "rush of air."

There have been no other sightings since Sept. 8, but the telescope and binoculars sit near the door. "Since fair week we've really kept an eye out for our UFO," states the mother.

Even though the family does not talk openly about the sightings, they have confided in a few friends who asked if they had seen the mysterious object. "We think a lot of people have seen it but just are not saying anything," they say.

The family was unaware of the numerous sightings reported to the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained in Greensburg during the last several weeks from people all over southwestern Pennsylvania.

As to what the objects could be the family agrees that they "don't know what it is but, they know what it isn't." A neighbor, who also saw the object, states with a grin that considering the advancements made in the last 50 years, it could just be a military project, but on the other hand...

Cosmic Watergate?

Just when you begin to suspect you 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind,' may have heard just about every people are ready to accept that we're complaint against the government not the only beings in the universe."

There is, a group like the Citizens The members of CAUS may have a case. The world is probably ready for its own close encounter, whether the visitors are small statured and ugly or as cute as E.T. But UFO Cosmic enthusiasts will have to remember they are dealing with an obviously superior intellect. Beings that have mastered the light years of space and the restraints of time needed to reach earth are unlikely to land on the White House lawn and stand by bored by parades, speeches and presentations of keys to the city and the like. They probably have no taste for state banquet cuisine and would not care to submit to an interview by David Hartman or even Barbara Walters and certainly would not pose for a picture for People magazine.

Or, perhaps its not the hostility of earth the extraterrestrials fear. They may simply be flying economy rather than first class. Fawcett himself has seen at least one of a spacecraft filling up at a power plant, indicating their need for electric power. Perhaps the creatures fear by coming publicly in peace - and leaving a forwarding address - they would get a bill from the electric company for recharging their batteries.

Just when you begin to suspect you 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind,' may have heard just about every people are ready to accept that we're complaint against the government not the only beings in the universe."

There is, a group like the Citizens The members of CAUS may have a case. The world is probably ready for its own close encounter, whether the visitors are small statured and ugly or as cute as E.T. But UFO Cosmic enthusiasts will have to remember they are dealing with an obviously superior intellect. Beings that have mastered the light years of space and the restraints of time needed to reach earth are unlikely to land on the White House lawn and stand by bored by parades, speeches and presentations of keys to the city and the like. They probably have no taste for state banquet cuisine and would not care to submit to an interview by David Hartman or even Barbara Walters and certainly would not pose for a picture for People magazine.

Or, perhaps its not the hostility of earth the extraterrestrials fear. They may simply be flying economy rather than first class. Fawcett himself has seen at least one of a spacecraft filling up at a power plant, indicating their need for electric power. Perhaps the creatures fear by coming publicly in peace - and leaving a forwarding address - they would get a bill from the electric company for recharging their batteries.

By CHRISTOPHER SIMPSON
Staff Writer

If any Tidewater residents have first-hand accounts of extra-terrestrials being stored at Langley Air Force Base, Larry Bryant wants you to phone his home.

With your help, Bryant, director of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy, says he might finally solve what he believes to be a government coverup: that extra-terrestrials have been held hostage on various military bases for years.

"We're looking for what amounts to a Deep Throat," says Bryant, a writer living in Alexandria.

"We need a retired military officer, policeman, a UFO investigator or some other responsible authority associated with the government who might now be conscience-stricken and willing to tell all."

What Bryant wants to hear is verification of his unproved belief that the military recovered at least three aliens from outer space when their craft crashed in New Mexico in 1950.

He says the extra-terrestrials likely were, and might still be, held against their will at Langley

"We have a 90 percent confidence factor we're on the right track in uncovering the 'cosmic Watergate.'"

Larry Bryant

Air Force Base.

"There are some questions if anything now is being held at Langley," Bryant says. "At this point we don't know where the bodies are stored. They've probably been moved around much like a marble under a nut shell."

"And one nut shell," he says, "is Langley."

Bryant took his appeal to the public after his search was grounded last July, when a federal judge threw out his "Writ of Habeas Corpus Extra-terrestrial." The writ contended that space beings are being held by the government, "an unwarranted deprivation of their right to travel."

But now, after an astronomical research effort, Bryant thinks his organization has the right stuff to prove his allegation.

According to Bryant, a declassified government document dated March 22, 1950, includes an account of the UFO crash and subsequent retrieval of extra-terrestrials.

"An investigator for the Air Force stated that three so-called flying saucers had been recovered in New Mexico," according to the document. "Each was occupied by three bodies of human shape but only three feet tall, dressed in metallic cloth of very fine texture. ..."

Although a copy of the government document was included in the July writ, the litigation ended after the judge disregarded the evidence, noting the court likely did not have jurisdiction over space beings.

"We have a 90 percent confidence factor we're on the right track in uncovering the 'cosmic Watergate' epitomized by the retrieval of artifacts and crew members," Bryant says.

"If I were a former participant or witness to this coverup, I'd rest a lot easier if I could clear

my conscience and let the people know about this subject."

Officials at NASA's Langley Research Center and at Langley Air Force Base say no extra-terrestrials have been held or stored at their facilities.

"To my knowledge, we don't have any and there are none on the Peninsula," says Capt. David Griffard, chief of public affairs at Langley Air Force Base.

Maurice Parker, a National Aeronautics and Space Administration spokesman, said no extra-terrestrials "are held at the Langley Research Center and never have been to my knowledge. We're a research organization and involved in space exploration and not in looking for unidentified flying objects."

Bryant says he has heard the denials before and still believes some Tidewater residents may be able to shed light on the dark mystery of UFOs and alien beings.

"It's not preposterous," he says emphatically. "If a sighting or crash occurred along the eastern seaboard, Langley would be a logical first resting place for recovered debris or bodies."

UFO Expert George Fawcett Says A 'Cosmic Watergate' Is Going On

BY SANDRA SHOOK
Staff Writer

A "Cosmic Watergate" is under way in this country according to one man who has made the study of UFOs a personal pursuit.

George Fawcett, an international authority on unidentified flying objects, spoke at Lees-McRae College last week on the unexplained phenomenon of "flying saucers."

Fawcett, of Lincolnton, general manager and advertising salesman for the weekly Maiden

Times newspaper, says there's a government coverup in the United States on the subject.

"The recent revelations through the Freedom of Information laws indicate that the United States government has overwhelming evidence — and I use the word overwhelming seriously — that UFOs do exist; France has already concluded that years ago," he said, "and that some of these unconventional crafts, if you want to call them that, pose a threat to national security, and

that UFOs perform beyond the range of present-day technology and technological developments in terms of maneuverability, speed, size and shapes.

"Also through the same revelations we have found that there is a great deal of evidence that our government has continually misinformed the public concerning the significance of the UFO problem."

He said that there are cases which underline the fact that "we have a Cosmic Watergate on our hands. All the agencies involved with the Watergate affair have been involved with the UFO business for over 30 years and are still at the present time, in 1983, monitoring and seriously looking into the UFO reports."

Fawcett is the owner of a large "Sauceriana Collection" consisting of UFO research, case histories, photographs, questionnaires, clipping services, scrapbooks and correspondence begun in 1944.

Dozens of Fawcett's research articles were listed in the 1969 Library of Congress book "UFOs and Related Subject: An Annotated Bibliography," published under contract with the Air Force Office of Scientific Research.

He said he recently received 600 documents from the Freedom of Information Act on the subject of UFOs following lawsuits against the government by Ground Saucers Watch in Phoenix, Ariz.

Fawcett said, however, that in April 1982 the Supreme Court intervened in the release of such documents by upholding a lower court ruling saying that "UFOs are a threat to national security."

"This represents a complete reversal of government policy after 39 years," he said.

Fawcett said that the U.S. Air Force phased out its Blue Book program, a study and investigation of UFOs in 1969, for three reasons: that UFOs are not interplanetary, UFOs are not a threat to national security; and that UFOs do not represent advanced science and technology.

He cited a document released through the lawsuits that indicate the existence of UFOs. The document had been written March 22, 1950.

According to Fawcett, an investigator for the Air Force's Strategic Air Command had written to the director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that flying saucers had been recovered in New Mexico. The crafts were 50 feet in diameter and occupied with human-shaped bodies three feet tall. The bodies were wearing metallic-like cloth.

Fawcett quizzed the audience asking them to raise their hands if they had ever seen a UFO. A smattering of hands went up.

He said that North Carolina ranks fourth in the country for UFO sightings and that at the present time 15 million Americans have said they have seen UFOs and that 57 percent of the public accepts them as reality.

"So for the first time in 38 years if you are skeptical about UFOs you belong to a minority group in America," he said. "I might also add that there is a 98 percent awareness of UFOs in the country, so it's the highest awareness ever found out by the Gallup Polls."

Later during the lecture, following a slide show of photographs of alleged UFOs, he said on the subject, "I have found that a lot of people have made up their minds, and I hope you are not going to do this at Lees-McRae College. Don't make up your mind without examining the evidence. Don't say that there is no such thing ... because that's what we call 'blind doubt.'"

"But on the other hand don't run out of the auditorium tonight and say that every light in the sky is a spaceship because that's called 'foolish faith.' Neither approach is the correct approach."

"But UFOs are a global phenomenon and had it just been a North Carolina problem I probably would have stopped years ago but it's happening in all the world nations at the present time."



George Fawcett, a noted authority on unidentified flying objects, spoke at Lees-McRae College last week on the status of sightings in the United States and the world. (Staff photo by Bill Sheffield)

NEWS-AMERICAN, Baltimore, MD

Oct. 15, 1983

Arundel police investigating UFO sighting

News American Staff

Anne Arundel County police and fire officials are investigating the reported sighting of an Unidentified Flying Object in Pasadena.

Charles Williams Knight, of the 7000 block of Fort Smallwood Road, told police he was watching television in the living room of his home Wednesday when the room was illuminated by an extremely bright light.

Knight said he saw a large round object fly by his house when he went to the window. The saucer-like object had landed on his front lawn by the time he got to the front porch, he said.

Knight described the object as 2 or 3 feet high and 12 feet wide.

The front of the aircraft was raised off the ground by a stanchion, he said.

According to Knight, the object lifted itself off the ground and vanished without making any noise.

Several dark spots were left on his grass in a circular shape by the UFO, Knight said. County fire officials went to the home and took samples of the grassy area.

TRI-COUNTY NEWS, Junction City, OR - Oct. 6, 1983

'I'm just the ad person'

If there be any readers out there as crazy as I am when it comes to hitting the sack at a decent hour, perhaps you caught a recently-aired debate between two UFO experts on the television show, *Latenight with David Letterman*.

Such debates are a rarity these days. Issues of more social and political consequence have taken their place on the airwaves. Still, if you ask the right skywatcher, you will hear a story or four that give credence to the idea that UFOs do exist.

There is a small group of Junction City folks who became believers during the summer of '66, a year when UFO sightings seemed to be an everyday occurrence somewhere in the nation.

It all started with a huge glowing light that was too low in the northern sky to be a star. In fact it looked like an airplane's fog light and was passed off as one among observers in our household.

That was before sunset. When the light was still there long after dark, interest in it glowed anew.

But I was the die-hard who finally saw a change in the light. Long after my bedtime I knelt at my window and watched it in the night sky. I thought I was seeing things when it began to make erratic little circles but as it straightened its course and headed due south I ran to summon the rest of the family.

What followed was a scene that was repeated many times that summer, otherwise normal people standing berobed and barefooted in the middle of Oak Drive, their faces turned toward the heavens.

That first UFO turned east right above our heads as did dozens of others on the nights that followed. One by one the neighbors scoffed at our UFO stories and were convinced to come out and observe for themselves. Gradually the little company of curbside stargazers grew.

None of the UFOs we saw that summer were as large and bright as the first. They could have easily

been written off as satellites had it not been for their odd flight patterns and the fact that, no matter which direction they came from, they all turned east at the same point in the sky.

It was Kim McNeil and I who spotted the granddaddy of 'em all and it was during broad daylight. And it landed.

Kim and I were lounging on my dad's '49 Ford pickup, no doubt engrossed in conversation about rock groups or dogs or horses when we noticed a flash of sunlight on metal in the sky over the wheat field that is now the site of the new LDS church on Rose Street.

We watched the source of the flash as it slowly descended and took on a disk shape. Looking very much like the classic flying saucer, it eventually came to rest right on top of the wheat.

What happened next I do not remember. Why Kim and I didn't march right out into that wheat field I do not know. Later, when we relayed the experience to others, it was pretty hard to convince them that the whole episode wasn't a figment of our eleven-year-old imaginations.

If you were to ask Kim about it now, I'll bet she'd remember and insist that it did happen.

After the summer of '66 our UFO sightings waned and other things took their place of immediate interest. Still the subject, wherever and whenever it comes up, perks up our ears.

For the E.T. generation, the prospect of being visited by martians is one that would cause a run on Reeses Pieces, and even members of the Twilight Zone generation would prefer a confrontation with martians to Russians.

It might even be fun. After all, never have the neighbors on Oak Drive spent as much time together talking as they did in '66 when the UFOs came by.

-JUDY HUNT



IRRIGATOR, Leeton, N.S.W., Australia - July 26, 1983

UFO 'CHASED' BY CAR

Mystery sighting.

AUSTRALIA'S sudden rash of UFO sightings hit Leeton at the weekend with a firm report from a respected local woman and her 14-year-old daughter.

Leeton's Saturday night sighting follows a pattern of similar reports along a line from Western Melbourne to Williamstown, a giant RAAF jet fighter base north of Newcastle.

The RAAF has officially denied any knowledge of the mystery flying objects and has launched a full-scale investigation into the reports.

Doreen Shepherd and her daughter Jenny, 14, watched a UFO hover above and around their car near Wattle Hill on Saturday night.

Mrs Shepherd was driving her daughter home from ballet classes when she first spotted an unusual and brightly lit object in the air as they passed Jerry's Service Station about 8.25 p.m.

She is adamant the object was not an aeroplane, helicopter or any other type of machine common to Australian skies.

"At first I was waiting for Jenny to say something about it but as it got closer and darted across the road I said 'What's that big thing up there Jenny?' Mrs Shepherd said.

"I've never seen anything like it before.

"It was an oval shape - and became bright red as it hovered around us.

"It seemed to be blue on top and had lights which seemed like windows all over it."

She followed the strange object through Wattle Hill as far as Leeton Veterinary Hospital where it seemed to stop and hover over their vehicle.

"At first Jenny was very brave and wanted me to follow it but as it hovered over the car she said, 'Let's go, Mum.'"

"It really gave me a fright when it came back over our car.

"It seemed to move like a kite would and the stars looked like pin

pricks compared to its size," Mrs Shepherd said.

Both of them became frightened as the craft hovered over their car and seemed to be following them.

They hurried to their Lightwood Street home in Wattle Hill where Mrs Shepherd's husband Ted came outside to look at the object which was then hovering over a tree in the area.

Mr Shepherd watched the craft from his front lawn for about 10 minutes.

Mrs Shepherd said the strangest thing about the craft was its brightness and the fact that it made no noise.

"It had no wings or anything but couldn't have been an aeroplane or a helicopter because you couldn't watch something like that hover for that long," she said.

"I'm not a ratbag and wouldn't say I saw something like this if I didn't."

UFO sightings were also reported in Victoria on Saturday night.

NEWS, Ballarat, Victoria, Australia - Aug. 1, 1983

New UFO sighting

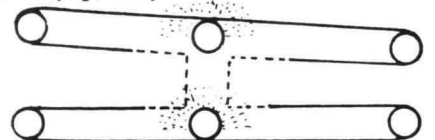
Following our front page story on UFOs a reader offers more information:

At 6.10 am on Saturday August 13 I saw an object which appeared to be gliding over the City of Ballarat

It was travelling slowly eastwards at about 500 feet. It was beautifully proportioned but unfortunately I was only able to sight it for about 20 seconds before it became obscured by buildings and trees before it disappeared into a large black cloud.

The reader went on to say that the object seemed to have been coasting as there was no sound of any kind to indicate power.

It had six lights which seemed to form a slight wedge shape, the two centre lights were sparkling the others seemed to be glowing white hot.



NEWS artist Chris Ellis has drawn the object as described by our reader. Ed.

help to contribute to the wealth of material being documented on the subject of UFOs.

"It appeared to be about 50 or 100 feet long and as it went either through or behind the large, black cloud the rear lights remained visible as a sort of moon glow."

Our reader went on to say that a strong emanation of power from the object overcame her.

"It was an awe inspiring sight which left me with a feeling of great well-being."

She went on to say that having read of other sightings she felt her own may

AREA NEWS, Griffith, N.S.W., Australia - July 27, 1983

Those mystery flying objects

The Griffith district has not escaped the sudden rash of reported UFO sightings in NSW and Victoria in recent weeks.

The officer-in-charge of Yenda Police, Senior Constable Dave Cohen, has had two reports of unusual sightings in the night sky this month.

He received a report early this week from a Binya woman that her young son had witnessed a strange object with red and blue lights while travelling through the Binya State Forest between about 8 pm and 8.15 pm.

The woman, Mrs Pat Burns, had spent the weekend contemplating whether she should report the matter.

She was encouraged to do so when she heard that a Leeton woman and her 14-year-old daughter had reported sighting a mystery object in the sky at about 8.25 pm on Saturday night.

Mrs Burns' 10-year-old son Damien had seen the lights and wanted her to stop so they could get a better look.

However, Mrs Burns was reluctant to do so and by the time she had an opportunity to look out of the car window, she was unable to see anything.

Damien told his

mother the lights seemed to be just above the tree line. She had checked that there were no aircraft scheduled to be in the area at the time.

Earlier this month, Mrs Anne-Marie Constable of Griffith was returning home from Wollongong with her sister-in-law, Mrs Kerry Constable, of Wollongong, and Mr Phillip Greig, of Griffith when they saw what was at first thought to be a very low-flying plane, just above the trees.

After watching the object, which remained constant, they realised it was not a plane.

Mrs Anne-Marie Constable said the object appeared to be a light which flashed from point to point of what appeared to be a diamond shape but remained in the same basic area. As the light shifted from each spot, it changed colours from a very bright, white light, to blue and red.

The group had been travelling on the Griffith to Ardlethan Road and

were not far from Yenda when they first spotted the object at about 8 pm.

Mrs Constable said their view was blocked from time to time by trees so they pulled up at a clearing near McWilliams Winery and got out of the car to watch the object.

Shortly after, they reported the sighting to Senior Constable Cohen who accompanied them back out to the area where they had watched the object from outside their car.

The object was not in the same place, however, it was spotted much further away in a different area of the sky.

'Cigars' in sky start UFO mystery

Forget about E.T. — Windermere may have had its own visitors from outer space.

Families at School Knott watched shapes like "fat cigars" lit up by bright flashing lights on Monday night as they stood outside their homes.

Witness Mr Jim Palmer said: "I would stake my life it was a UFO."

His wife Janis was the first to spot the brightly lit objects at about 8.40 p.m. from the bedroom window of their home on School Knott Drive.

He watched with binoculars as the lights moved towards Orrest Head, remained there motionless for a while, and then set off quite quickly to disappear over School Knott.

He said about 10 people saw the large object, about 8,000 feet up, with red and green lights, and a large blue-white flashing light in one corner. Through his binoculars Mr Palmer said he could make out what looked like windows when the blue light was lit.

He saw two of the objects, but his wife said there had been more which appeared to be flashing at each other.

"It was really weird," he said. "It definitely wasn't a plane or a helicopter. There was no sound whatsoever."

He told the police about the sighting and intends to contact specialists on UFO sightings.

Inspector Mike Stephens of Windermere Police, said Mr Palmer had been the only person to report the incident. An officer was sent to the scene but could see nothing. "As far as we are concerned we investigated and found nothing," he said.

How 'UFO' came down to earth — and surprised a weatherman

A Cape Weather Bureau employee believes he had a "close encounter" with a UFO while travelling to work near Beaufort West in April.

Writing in the Weather Bureau Newsletter, Mr Izak Ferreira described how his bakkie was propelled along at 160 km/h — while he was braking.

The weatherman said he was driving to his airport office 12 km out of town at 4.30 am on April 20 when he spotted "two strange lights about 400 m ahead of me and almost 70 m above the road."

"The lights moved parallel with each other at high speed from the north."

His first impression was that the lights belonged to an aircraft in difficulty, but when he lifted his foot from the accelerator his speed increased.

"My eyes were still on the lights.

When I pressed the brake pedal it felt like a solid piece of iron. The lights began moving upwards away from the road. I used the brake again, with no effect, and when I looked at the speedometer, it registered 140 km/h, and was increasing fast.

"I kept my foot on the brake and looked outside to see if I could verify anything, because by then I knew I had become involved in something abnormal," Mr Ferreira said.

The lights disappeared above and behind him. He kept braking, but his speed increased to 160 km/h.

He managed to halt the bakkie after about 2.5 km.

When he tested the vehicle on the same road four hours later, at about 9 am, his bakkie could only reach a top speed of 120 km/h. — Sapa.

EXPRESS, Wakefield, England

Aug. 26, 1983

Did U.C. UFO?

I WONDER if any other of your readers witnessed the most strange sightings in the sky over the City of Wakefield on the 14th, 15th and 16th of August?

The time was about 11pm and this took place on the nights mentioned. Many people saw the large "star" type of light hovering over the Flanshaw and Dewsbury Road area.

On Sunday at 11.16pm the star coloured light object with a number of other lights following it hovered over Dewsbury Road and seemed to drop in due course into the woods at the back of Eden Avenue.

On 15th, 16th the lights were again seen but were on these dates zig-zagging from side to side albeit very slowly — too slow for a shooting star.

It is most curious, maybe someone can say what these lights were?

MRS A. COLLEY

DAILY TELEGRAPH, London,
England - Oct. 25, 1983

1,400 UFO REPORTS

By Our Political Staff

There had been 1,400 reports of sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects made to the Ministry of Defence since 1980, Mr John Stanley, Armed Forces Minister, said yesterday. But there were no corresponding unexplained radar contacts, he said in a Commons written answer.

'Big mamma' UFO in rescue riddle

STOCKHOLM Monday. — Swedish army captain Lennart Bergstrom could not believe his own eyes as he returned from his usual after-work jogging run, — a "thing" he described as a huge flying "bus" was gliding slowly down to earth . . .

"It was a monster sight to see," Captain Bergstrom said at his home at Malmby, 100km from here.

"I thought at first it

might have been a military transport helicopter. But there was just no noise, no sound apart from a barely perceptible whine . . . and I could be

mistaken about that!

Captain Bergstrom is not mistaken, however, about what he saw shortly after 5pm on the evening of December 17 last. He knows what he saw but can find no logical explanation.

Swedish Defence Department officials have confirmed the report made to them by the army captain but they claim no military or civilian aircraft were in the area at the time. They're just as baffled about it as captain Bergstrom.

"I know I'm setting myself up for ridicule," he said. "But I am quite sure of what I saw."

Long-term military experience — more than 20 years in the Swedish armed services — has trained his eye to observe and analyse what he sees.

"It was just coming in to land when I first saw it out of the corner of my eye," he said. "It appeared to sink slowly into a forest clearing about 3km from where I stood. Two other, smaller, objects came hurtling out of nowhere and seemed to 'home-in' on the position. They 'braked' and settled with the bigger UFO into the clearing."

Captain Bergstrom describes the two smaller UFO's as having the 'classical' UFO contours. Although not able to get a close-up look at them, he describes small pin-points of light coming from 'windows' along the circumference of the metal-gray discs as they manoeuvred into position to join 'big mamma' in the forest glade.

"Both of them shone brightly on the underside. The colour changed down-scale through pink to scarlet red as they joined up," he said.

"The larger object was about eight times the size of the smaller ones. It must have been about 30 metres long by about four or five metres high."

Swedish UFO experts say the "big mamma" UFO could have been a mothership brought in on a "search and rescue" mission following a UFO crash-landing.

World

"There is no way they would leave bits and pieces of a flying saucer lying around for humanoids to find," says Kjell Hagglund, a UFO expert who has studied UFOs over 30 years.

"There is no way of saying where they came from but I personally feel they must have come from one of the more distant galaxies. Inter-galactic travellers from nearer systems would almost certainly have light years more navigational experience under terrestrial conditions than these appear to have had . . ."

Another UFO specialist, 33-year-old Stefan Hallerby, says the "salvage operation" is the part of the UFO sighting which causes him most concern.

A reconstruction of the Malmby UFO sighting shows three conventionally sized UFOs may have been searching the immediate area — a water-surface terrain dotted with small islands.

"The most 'modern' UFOs to visit our corner of the universe are able to make themselves invisible to both the naked eye and radar surveillance. Under 'normal' conditions they would not allow

themselves to be seen.

"It's the only possible explanation," says Stefan Hallerby. Before Captain Bergstrom had caught sight of the "big mamma" a third UFO is thought to have already landed, acting as an "advance force" while the mothership, unusually and daringly, swooped in from inter-planetary space to collect the salvage.

Housewife Mrs Maria Bosund had just left her local grocery store in the village when she was stopped in her tracks by a "huge lighted shape" pulling into position and descending into the forest clearing.

"But the peculiar thing was there was no sound. I could hear the wind in the trees. The experience was marked by the fact the vicar had just driven up. He got out of his car to watch the "thing" too. It was very puzzling."

"It was quite amazing," says the Reverend Karl-Erik Dalsgaard. "I'm at a loss to accept that they were flying saucers but the fact I saw it all myself does take quite a bit of explanation. I can only tell you what I saw — and I know I saw it." — Special to the Star.

YORKSHIRE EVENING POST, Leeds, England - Sept. 28, 1983



Menwith Hill . . . "a bright star hovered."

IN the third part of the adaptation from Jenny Randles' book "The Pennine UFO Mystery," the author examines how sightings seem to occur in 21-month cycles and highlights an Otley experience.

The pattern of UFO sightings



UFO reports are not made randomly but come in cycles. Although there is a constant background level of activity, this can flare up every so often into what ufologists call a flap or wave.

Flaps tend to be short lived and stimulated by media attention on an interesting local case. But a wave may be only geographically restricted in the sense of being limited to one whole country or major region of it. It seems to have no relation to media publicity.

Britain's biggest wave of the past decade came from February to June, 1977, a national event and from past wave recordings the question arises — is there a link between the dates?

A good deal of work has been done on this subject, and while it is dangerous to predict anything in ufology, there are one or two people who believe we can start to feel confident.

While researching this book I found I had been referring to increased UFO activity at certain times. If we bring these into sequence we have late October, 1973, August, 1975, May, 1977 and February, 1979. You hardly need a degree in maths to figure out that these are separated by periods of 21 months.

If we project the pat-

UFOs in Yorks

The full story

tern into the future we can see if it holds. If it does, we will know for sure we are on to something.

November, 1980, is the next date in sequence and after that August / September, 1982, May (June), 1984 and February / March, 1986.

Dismal

The 1980 projection is now history. At first glance UFO records would suggest not. It was a dismal year for sightings on the whole. But practically every single major event within Britain that year was concentrated into a very short time-span towards the end of November, what we came to think of as "the great wave."

The predicted August - September, 1982, wave does appear to have happened right on time. Sightings began to climb from an all-time low during mid-July and have, as the book goes to press, included all the old familiar from the Pennine area, including orange balls of light and even an alleged meeting with aliens.

One witness came forward in mid-August with a report that his car had been attacked by glowing balls of red light which had apparently burned out all his electrical wiring. He was parked at the time beside a small lake. May

June, 1984, should prove rather interesting.

To return to the 1980 wave, other incidents occurred during September and October.

For instance, on September 13 an object was seen in the early hours by police at Wetherby. It was diamond shaped, and police patrols in other parts of North and West Yorkshire chased it. Some chased it eastwards towards Hull.

There were rumours that the early warning establishment at Fylingdales, with radar searching for nuclear attack, detected the local UFO but we have not been able to validate police claims to this effect. Pcs Roy Allen and Richard Gordon were on the York by-pass when they claim the object approached them, hovered and then moved off.

While difficult to believe in this connection, I must point out that Venus was very bright in the eastern sky on early mornings in September. Some of the police sightings can be attributed to this, I suspect.

Meteor

About 1 a.m. on Sunday, November 23, at Otley, and four miles from our old friend Menwith Hill, Nigel Mortimer, 22, awoke for no apparent reason and felt an urge to look through his bedroom window in the north-east he saw a very bright "star" moving towards Menwith Hill. His first response was that it was a meteor but he realised his error when it decelerated and hovered above a nearby field.

It looked like an oval, apparently metallic and bluish grey in colour and was surrounded by a reddish mist or vapour.

The object hovered in total silence for several minutes and Nigel tells me he felt very alert and also oddly "secure" inside his home. He said he experienced a sense of elation or achievement.

Nigel found himself overwhelmingly tired and fighting to dismiss what he had seen. Only minutes later, in spite of his conviction, he was half disbelieving it had taken place at all.

Realising the way his mind was working, almost as if it were trying to make him forget, he took pen and paper and wrote down what had happened. Still not convinced he would remember having written the notes he took an ornament from the window sill, put the notes beneath it and put it beside the bed.

It was fortunate he went to such lengths. When he awoke some hours later he had completely forgotten his sighting until he discovered his notes.

Had he not gone to such trouble to retain a memory of the events would he ever have known it had taken place?

Most of our dreams from the previous night escape totally from our conscious recall. The inference of this kind of experience is that the same thing might apply to UFO close encounters.

Were you abducted last night?

"Adapted from 'The Pennine UFO Mystery' by Jenny Randles (Granada, £1.50).

MoD quiet on UFO

By Gareth Parry

THE Ministry of Defence confirmed at the weekend that an American airman based at Bentwaters in Suffolk had sent them details of an alleged UFO landing in Britain on December 27, 1980. But a spokesman said he could not reveal details of the report.

A News of the World story — "UFO lands in Suffolk" — yesterday claimed to reproduce a confidential report by Lt-Col Charles Hall, the deputy base commander at Bentwaters, which described how two patrolmen claimed to see a mysterious craft come down to earth in a red ball of light.

The newspaper says the alleged landing happened in a pine forest called Tanham Wood, half a mile from the USAF base at RAF Woodbridge and that about 200 British and American military and civilian personnel saw the unidentified flying object. The Ministry of Defence spokesman said he knew of only one report.

GUARDIAN, London, England - Oct. 3, 1983 CR: L. Beer

LINCOLNSHIRE DAILY ECHO, Lincoln, England - Oct. 8, 1983

Light touch of the UFOs

ONE swallow does not make a summer — but a fairly tight group of lights in the sky apparently make more than an aircraft.

A Heighington reader who saw the story in Wednesday's Echo of Mr. Benjamin Franklin sighting a UFO believes he may have shared the experience.

"I was travelling from Lincoln with my wife shortly after nine o'clock when I saw a group of red and white lights in the sky north-east of Lincoln.

"They were an appreciable distance away, but gave the impression of being virtually stationary.

He said he had many times seen aircraft lights at night — civil and military — and these were totally different.

There were far too many of them too close together for them to have been from any aircraft he had seen.

"I was so intrigued, I asked my wife, who was driving, to stop the car.

"We both watched the lights for two or three minutes. Eventually, they moved away — very rapidly. We heard nothing and saw nothing except the lights.

"Whatever they were they were nothing like anything I have seen from aircraft."

Brothers who keep a check on UFOs

IT WAS midday on the road between Skipton and Grassington on March 16 1981 as two North Yorkshire policemen went about their business. It was a clear day but it was something unusual which suddenly attracted their attention.

Hovering below a sheer cliff face at Cracoe Fell were three large white glowing balls of light. The officers reached for their camera and snapped what could prove to be the best photographic evidence of a UFO in Britain for a long time.

The photograph which was reproduced exclusively in the Yorkshire Evening Post yesterday, is now under the copyright of the Yorkshire UFO Society whose chairman and co-ordinator is Leeds local government officer Graham Birdsall.

He and his brother Mark get to know about most of the UFO sightings in Yorkshire, and now have over 300 on their books. The sighting by the two policemen is the most dramatic photographic evidence they have ever had. They have already contacted America's top UFO photo analysts, Ground Saucer Watch, about the evidence.

Graham Birdsall was 14 when he first became interested in UFOs after seeing strange and unusually bright lights in the sky. That was 15 years ago, and since then he and his brother have records and research on most of the sightings made in Yorkshire.

And the brothers believe they are very close to pinning down the phenomena to an area of North Yorkshire which borders Skipton, Grassington and the east Pennines.

Shapes

"There is a regularity of sightings occurring up there in a very sparsely populated area," said Graham. "It is not just lights seen by the odd individual. These are definite shapes, solid objects which don't bear any similarity to flying craft."

"These things are being seen at such a close range and descriptions we are getting back from witnesses all combine and indicate that something major is happening up there."

"If we are there to meet it head on, the conclusion could be quite staggering." Some of this year's sightings in North Yorkshire show a pattern:

February 11: Grassington, large oval with three flashing bulbs underneath.

March 23: Bolton Abbey, circular yellow object moving north west of Grassington.

March 23: Grassington, orange glow in an area of trees, one tree found badly scorched.

March 30: Rylstone Fell, yellow object seen in the sky.

March 31: Grassington, yellow light manoeuvring from stationary.

NORTH Yorkshire's east Pennines area is making a name for itself as one of Britain's best grounds for UFO sightings. More than 30 incidents have been reported since the beginning of the year. Following the YEP's exclusive UFO picture published yesterday, CHRIS CHILD talks to two Leeds brothers, GRAHAM and MARK BIRDSALL, who have been researching sightings in the area.



UFO enthusiasts Graham (left) and Mark Birdsall.

April 13: Hebden Bridge, object 300 feet above Simon's Seat.

April 13: Grassington, white light, large and stationary which moved away at a fast speed.

May 1: Halifax, woman sees white light moving from a valley towards her bedroom window. Comes to within a few feet from window, disappears, and blue object with two red arms appears. She is unable to move.

Another woman who was driving from Lancashire to her home in North Yorkshire observed coloured lights in her rear view mirror. She slowed down and let the lights overtake her because the road was narrow, but they refused to go.

Suddenly, the lights were above her. Her reaction was not to stop but press hard on the accelerator and as she did so, a cone-shaped light hit her bonnet. This continued for about a mile and a half. When a wagon came towards her in the opposite direction the lights disappeared.

Graham said that the woman did not realise just what had happened to her until she reached home — mysteriously 45 minutes late. "She couldn't believe it because she could not recall stopping off anywhere," he said.

The woman reported the matter to the authorities because she was concerned it could happen to other motorists. By mutual agreement, the woman was put under hypnosis and took part in five regressions which provided a fascinating account of her missing time. A 30-page study of the results of the regression are still being analysed.

It is now hoped to put the woman into another regression and invite leading

exponents of hypnosis and psychoanalysts to be present.

"Something we always maintain is that we are not out to convince everyone that these things exist," said Graham. "People will only be 100 per cent convinced at the existence of these craft when they see one for themselves or when a colleague, friend or relative says they have seen one."

Truth

"There has been hundreds of thousands of UFO reports in the last 37 years worldwide," said Mark. "If a fraction of one per cent of those are the truth, then there is something there."

The Yorkshire UFO Society is an opportunity for those who are interested in UFOs to get together. You don't necessarily have to believe in the phenomena to be a member.

The society meets every month in Centenary House, North Street, Leeds, and for £5 a year members get a bi-monthly journal, newsletters, social events, sky watches, use of UFO books, and the chance to participate in research.

The brothers say they could do with more field researchers in the east Pennines area, and believe that reports of sightings there would then double. It is a painstaking job following up and researching a sighting. If it is felt a person should be interviewed, this takes place, and it enables them to draw up a positive picture of what was seen.

"If we believe that something really extraordinary has occurred, then steps are taken to try and eliminate all the possible explanations," said Graham.

"We then contact the civil-

ian authorities — police, airports, electricity board, gas board, etc. The more witnesses we have to a particular incident the more credence we give to the possibility that a UFO has been sighted."

If further investigations are needed, then this is done. Expert opinion is often sought, and Leeds University come to the aid with analysis of soil samples. Photographic experts are also called in from time to time.

Mark said one of the most frustrating things for UFO researchers was that there are so many people who see things and don't know who to go to. "Only 10 per cent of people who see these things report them," he said.

Constant

Some people often don't report their sightings until years after they have happened, like a man at Beeston, Leeds, who said he could actually see an eight-foot tall figure waving at him from a glass windowed craft. It happened in the summer of 1978.

"What we are up against is an attitude that has remained constant throughout the past four decades among the public," said Graham.

"That is that any notion that UFOs exist must be put down to cranks or head cases. In fact, the people who are seeing these things often come from the police, company directors and ordinary housewives."

● To contact Mark or Graham Birdsall, telephone Leeds 460179 or Leeds 622221. Send correspondence to the Yorkshire UFO Society, c/o Miles Hill Street, Leeds 7.

Anyone see this UFO?

Sir, — I wonder if you have had any reports of a UFO sighted last Wednesday night (August 10) at about 11 p.m.?

My son was driving home on his motor bike from Gosforth to Calderbridge and as he was passing the Boonwood he caught a glimpse of something in the sky. He thought it might be a shooting star, so he pulled in to have a good look. He had stopped just before a turning which leads to Wellington.

There in the sky, hovering above the two houses there, was this enormous UFO. He said it was about 150ft above the roof level, and must have been 200ft long. It had a big white light at the bottom and green flashing lights along the side. My son said he got a very good look at the object and could see its outline and everything. It didn't make a noise, he said, but there was a faint hum coming from it.

He was very frightened and just sat there watching it until it eventually swerved away and headed towards Wasdale.

Telling a friend yesterday at the golf course, she seemed very interested and asked what time this was. Apparently she was driving back from Whitehaven with her husband and as they came into Calderbridge she saw these green flashing lights in the distance towards Gosforth.

She asked her husband what he thought they were and he said: "Oh! It's just a plane." She said it was far too low for a plane, but then they were in Calderbridge and lost sight of the object. She thought nothing more about it until I related my tale.

I would be interested if anyone else saw anything on that night.

Sylvia Strong
2 Pelham Drive
Calderbridge

A hobby out of this world

WHEN Gary Rowe had his first "close encounter" it changed the course of his life.

Now 25 years later he is one of Britain's top experts in UFOlogy and founder of the National UFO Laboratory in North Wales.

His investigations of out-of-this-world phenomena has made his name nationwide and he attracts a growing following of UFO spotters.

Tonight he begins a second series of lectures on UFOs at Holywell Library.

His first four years ago was so successful that it led to a club which now has about 25 members who meet weekly at the Deeside Community Centre.

The laboratory based at Mr Roe's home, Cae Uchaf, Highfield Park, Rhyl, is one of the best equipped UFO research centres in Britain — complete with computer, data storage facilities, electronics, optical field investigation, photographic equipment, and electronic and mechanical workshop.

With club members, Mr Roe, aged 42, investigates reports from all over Britain and he hopes to have field investigators to cover each county and a ready-to-go anywhere team.

Said Mr Roe: "My interest was sparked as a result of encountering something inexplicable. I had an experience seeing an object, a large disc at a very low level in daylight in the South Wales village where I was living."

"From that moment I endeavoured to collect as much information on the subject as I could."

County man spots a 'silent' U.F.O

A MAN claims he saw a U.F.O. in the county last night.

He was in his garden at Rowston, near Digby, at 9.15 p.m. when he saw bright lights in the sky three or four miles north of the village, he said today.

"It seemed to be round," said Mr. Benjamin Franklin, of the Council Houses, "and the bottom half of it was brilliantly lit and flashing on and off."

It stayed for about 10 minutes before flying away

said Mr. Franklin, who followed the lights with his binoculars until the U.F.O. disappeared.

Faster

"There was no noise and you could have heard a pin drop," he said.

Mr. Franklin, a 36-year-old pump attendant, added that he was used to seeing planes from nearby RAF stations, but the U.F.O. was nothing like any of them and moved

much faster.

The stars were out, he said, and there were no clouds. His wife Marie, who went inside the house to fetch the binoculars also saw the U.F.O, he said.

Ft. Lt. Mike Fogarty, community relations officer at RAF Waddington, said today that the sighting was nothing to do with "Winged Victory," the Nato exercise currently involving Lincolnshire bases.

He had no explanation, he said.

ET could be for real!

DO UFO'S really exist? And if so, are they piloted by aliens from another galaxy?

In The Evidence For UFO's, Hilary Evans discusses all possibilities, including psychological natural and extra terrestrial explanation plus an often overlooked possibility — secret Government tests of defence equipment.

But after examining all the options, the author states firmly that some instances of UFOs are extra terrestrial. ET, it seems, could be for real!

The Evidence For UFO's is published by the Wellborough-based Aquarian Press. £2.90

Telford UFO spotter fears cover-up

A Telford man who is compiling a book on unidentified flying objects believes The Wrekin has become a focal point for mysterious aerial activity.

Mr Pat Judson (24), of Hurleybrook Way, Leegomery, claims that there have been 16 sightings of mysterious lights in the sky in the area since August 12.

He claims that he was given the information by RAF Shawbury, and also says they have since denied to him that they released any report of any UFOs.

"It all sounds very odd to me, like a cover-up," said Mr Judson.

Mr Judson said the he contacted RAF Shawbury earlier this month to see if there had been any sightings. A controller there told him of recent sightings, including three single objects in a diamond pattern, heading north-west to south-east, and three flights of four objects.

"Over the past 18 months there have been a lot of weird things which people have not told the papers about because they don't want people to think they are cranks. It makes you wonder just what is going on," he said.

Spaceship

Mr Judson is appealing to people throughout the area who have had such experiences to contact him.

So far, unexplained incidents in the area had included three Telford women who believed they were actually taken aboard a spaceship, a Leegomery resident who thought she saw something land on The Wrekin and some people who appeared to have "lost" 20 minutes after hearing a strange sound late at night, said Mr Judson.

Mr Judson intends to investigate as many of the stories as possible and if there is a logical explanation he hopes to find it.

He believes the Wrekin is bisected by two ley-lines, which are theoretic ancient powerlines apparently often connected with UFOs.

WESTERN DAILY PRESS, Bristol, England - Aug. 29, 1983

Waiting for the spaceships

A LOT of people were doing their best yesterday to come up with a plausible explanation for the way they spent Saturday night.

"Standing on a hill in the middle of Wiltshire? Don't make me laugh! What's her (or his) name?" would have been an excusable opening line over any of 200 or so breakfast tables yesterday morning.

I don't blame people for being suspicious. I would be too. But then again I was there. I saw it.

No, not a spaceship, or flashing lights — unless you count a Hercules from RAF Lyneham — or extra terrestrial manifestations of any kind.

What I saw on the top of Cradle Hill, just above Warminster, was a lot of otherwise sane and sensible people persuaded to give up the first Match of the Day of the season, and several less appealing alternatives, to spend hours on end — some of them all night — gazing up at the stars waiting for nothing to happen. It was almost as improbable as actually seeing a spaceship.

What, or rather who, I did not see was Mr Ken Rogers. Mr Rogers is a man blessed with powers of persuasion that many politicians would sell their souls for.

Spectacular

But on Saturday night the questions 'Have you seen Ken Rogers?' or 'Are You Ken Rogers?' or 'Who is this Ken Rogers?' were almost as common as 'Have you seen anything yet?' and the answer was similarly in the negative.

Mr Rogers started organising skywatches on Cradle Hill in 1973, after correlating local sightings of The Warminster Thing, and deciding that August 27 every other year was the most likely time to encounter visitors from beyond the stars.

A BBC radio telegraphist living in London, he has been on most of the skywatches and says he has seen some pretty unusual things.

He told me when I telephoned him about two weeks ago that he

TIM MILES joins the Warminster skywatchers

thought the signs for Saturday were pretty good, partly because of the strange circles which appeared in cornfields near Warminster and Westbury during the summer, similar to others which coincided with previous spectacular sightings.

These had included strange noises, lights in the sky and a large, glowing object shaped like a rugby ball. I said I would see him there.

But if Ken Rogers was on Cradle Hill on Saturday night, I MISSED HIM. He could not be contacted yesterday.

Admittedly, bumping into someone you have never seen before amongst 200 others on a dark hillside is not easy, and there were reports of a knowledgeable looking knot of people gathered poring over papers before dusk.

Convinced

But they didn't stay very long, apparently deciding that the mist and cloud made anything exciting extremely unlikely and giving it up as a bad job.

The more people appeared to know about what was supposed to happen, the less they seemed inclined to say.

One middle-aged man from "a village on Salisbury Plain" who said he was a former member of one of the UFO groups but would not say which, was slightly disparaging about the whole skywatch event.

It's absurd to think anything will happen on one particular night just because people say it will, and a lot of people turn up to wait for it," he said.

He had seen mysterious lights across the plain in the past but said: "If I did see anything tonight I wouldn't tell anybody because they would think I was nuts."

Another UFO group member, a lady from South Wales, bemoaned the lack of serious research into the subject. She said she had interviewed several

people who had seen UFOs and some who had 'closer encounters'.

"A lot of them were reluctant to talk about it, because people who really have seen something are usually scared stiff," she said.

But one man who said he had seen a spaceship and appeared none the worse for it was Mr David Hughes from Cardiff. Three years ago his wife, who was expecting, couldn't sleep and got up about 6 a.m. to hang out some washing. As she stood there she looked up to see a large cigar shaped craft hovering overhead.

He ran out to see what she was shouting about, just in time to see it disappear.

"I became totally convinced, not necessarily that UFOs come from outer space, but that there are things we can't explain," he said.

He came to Cradle Hill first in 1981, but only succeeded in getting drenched, and spotting a few satellites overhead. On Saturday he didn't even see any of those.

Eventually I did find someone who said they had actually seen something.

Eighteen-year-old Nigel Stewart from Birmingham had come to Cradle Hill with his friend Elizabeth Quinton. They had been sitting on higher ground than the main skywatch and said they had seen two red lights travelling across the sky from Warminster.

I rushed back to the main skywatch to spread the good news, expecting an enthusiastic reception.

"Oh that," said Lorna Symons from Bracknell Common, near Nailsea. "We saw that too, but it was a car. We got quite excited about it for a bit, but I'm afraid that's what it was."

Binoculars

She and her friend Cecily Hadley, from Flax Bourton, near Bristol, joined the skywatch on their way to sell antiques at Cheddar market, and confessed themselves slightly disappointed not to have seen anything.

The lights also caught the eye of Bristol policeman Graham Ford, from Horfield, who had brought his wife Madeline and their three children to join the skywatch. He was equally firmly convinced they were an aircraft.

"I got my binoculars on them and I could see the navigation lights as well," he said.

"We often drive through Warminster on the way to see relatives in Salisbury and it has become a standing joke to look out for the flying saucers."

"We heard about tonight and just came for the kids in the hope we might see something, although we didn't really expect to. We're not too disappointed."

By this time, it was 1.30 am on Sunday morning, and Cradle Hill was becoming an increasingly less hospitable place to be — apparently for aliens and certainly for reporters.

Anyway, it wasn't the 27th anymore. The aliens had missed their chance.

I decided the little green face that peered through a hedge on the way back to the car was probably suffering from the after effects of a more traditional Saturday night pastime, so I let him get on with it.

SHROPSHIRE STAR, Wellington, England - Aug. 27, 1983

Seeing is believing

DAVID and Dorothy King were cynical.

Despite the fact their daughter Dot is almost obsessed with the subject, the Kings just did not believe in the existence of unidentified flying objects. Until now.

Two years ago they were watching television in the front room of their two bedroomed mobile home in Winehouse Lane, Capel.

Dorothy got up to pull the blinds down and saw a brilliant white light hovering over Folkestone.

"I called Dave to the window and we watched as it moved away in the direction of Dover at a terrific speed," she said.

Today the couple are firmly convinced that what they saw was a UFO.

"The brilliant light lit everything up around, and it moved at such a remarkable speed it has convinced me that it was a UFO," said David.

And he takes a lot of convincing. "I thought this talk of UFOs was a load of old rubbish but now I firmly believe in their existence. I've seen one. How can I doubt it?" said David, a retired catering manager.

Their only daughter, Dot, a Suffolk housewife, is a UFO investigator, and her picture appeared in Sunday's News of The World, standing on the site where a UFO was spotted in 1980.

Father and daughter often had rows over her passion for unknown phenomena.

David disapproved of the time and money she spent on the subject, even though as a little girl Dot showed an interest in the unknown.

She became convinced following her first sighting in Great Yarmouth when she saw an oval amber-coloured shape the size of the moon moving at a tremendous speed.

It was not until two months later that the enormity of what she had seen sunk in. "I was scared to go out," said Dot.

She then joined a UFO club in Lowestoft and is a member of the British Unidentified Object Research Association.

The day after David and Dorothy saw the bright light from their window they told Dot.

"I know my parents well enough to know that they would never exaggerate and I am totally convinced that what they saw was a UFO," she said.

Following recent publicity surrounding UFOs the Kings decided to get in touch with the Dover Express.

"We know that sightings have been made on Sugar Loaf Hill in Folkestone but we'd be interested to know if anyone else has had a similar experience," said Dorothy.



Up late scanning the sky for the 'Warminster Thing' Stephen Ford, aged 13, and twins Richard and David Ford, aged 11. The brothers, from Horfield, adapt their father's car boot to make a suitable spotters' lair at Cradle Hill.

Adam was a crashed UFO pilot!

THE GARDEN of Eden may actually have been a lost spaceship that crash-landed on Earth with Adam and Eve and their relatives aboard.

Top New Zealand UFO-author and researcher Robin Collins, of Auckland, confirms the theory is now being given serious consideration here and overseas.

The UFOs-from-Heaven theory is the subject of a book currently racing to the top of the best-seller lists in the United States.

Written by Rabbi Dr Irwin Ginsburg, PhD, it is titled *First Man, Then Adam!*

It propounds a theory that ufologist Collins says has been gaining increased support recently in New Zealand and overseas.

Collins is the author of four books on ancient astronauts including *Did Spacemen Colonise Earth?* which is currently a best-seller in Japan.

Collins says his theories are "along similar lines" to Ginsburg's.

Collins says Greek and Hindu legend states that man already inhabited Earth when Adam and Eve came from space to interbreed.

He says they may have crash-landed but more likely came here deliberately.

He says it is claimed the early ancestors of man lived to great ages.

"The astronauts lived a long time," says Collins. "So it stands to reason that when they interbred with the races already on Earth their offspring should be long-lived."

He says it also stands to reason that as the race

became diluted life-spans gradually decreased.

Collins says, too, there may well have been more than one Adam.

"Hebrew translators now think Adam may have been the word 'Adom' which means a group of people, possibly with red skins," says Collins.

In his controversial book Ginsburg says the Bible is really the history of two people from outer space — Adam and Eve.

A respected teacher, author and researcher Ginsburg worked for 25 years as a physicist with a major US oil company.

He says his story of the marooned star people is supported by the Bible. In Genesis (6:2), it says "The sons of God found the daughters of men comely and took them as wives."

He interprets this as meaning Cain and Seth — Adam and Eve's sons — interbred with the indigenous population they found on Earth.

Ginsburg claims the Bible also confirms the belief the early Earth colonisers from space lived to great ages. He points to Methuselah.

He believes Methuselah's father Enoch, was aboard Adam and Eve's spaceship when it crash-landed here.

By JOHN WILSON

Genesis reports that Enoch "walked with God and was not of the Earth."

He says Enoch probably also repaired the crippled rocket and took off back into space on a rescue mission from which he never returned.

The Bible's description of Enoch's departure was probably a contemporary description of a blast-off, he says.

"To the right of Enoch sparked flames of fire," says the Bible. "To the left of him burnt torches of fire and on all sides he was encircled by storm and whirlwind, hurricane and thunder."

YORKSHIRE EVENING POST, Leeds, England - Sept. 23, 1983

Railwayman's weird sighting

IN the fourth of his five-part series GRAHAM W. BIRDSALL, Chairman of the Yorkshire UFO Society, relates the weird tale of the frightened railwayman and the Headingley sighting.

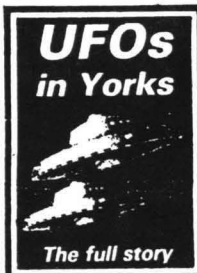


Illustration by MARK BIRDSALL

centre, the day was New Year's Eve, but I hasten to add that the time was 9 p.m.

himself was adamant that his experience did take place, and added that he had not told a soul, not even his wife. He requested absolute confidentiality and then hastened away. To this day, the man has never set foot back on that stretch of line.

Worried

Following a live phone-in programme I participated in for Radio Leeds, a letter arrived at my home from a worried man who had experienced UFO phenomenon at close quarters. Such was his concern, we only managed to speak with him at a secret rendezvous held at a Leeds hotel. The man in question is a senior employee of British Rail. He had left the station at Headingley on the evening of February 12, 1979 to walk about one mile down the track which was a short cut to his home.

Shortly after setting off, he noticed a bright green glow to his left beyond some bushes. Snow lay thickly on the ground. The man stood perfectly still, not eager to approach the glow. He then continued to walk towards his home, but was unnerved to see that the glow was pacing alongside him. Just then, the Harrogate to Leeds train appeared in the distance, and to avoid it meant crossing to the next railway line, which would take him within yards of the strange light.

As the train passed, the glow suddenly rose right above the man, and he could see a solid triangular shaped object. The man was now extremely frightened, and recalled walking on, in an effort to put as much distance between him and the object as possible.

However, when he looked back, the object was in the distance, but a remarkable sight greeted his eyes. He noticed that his footsteps in the snow ended a couple of feet away, and did not appear in the snow for some 15 feet, where he had been walking moments before. He had been raised above the snow by the object, and gently lowered back to the ground.

Incredible? The man

STAR, Llanelli, Wales - Oct. 8, 1983

'U.F.O.' GOES PAST WINDOW

LLANELLI housewife Mrs. Phyllis Grant claimed this week she saw a strangely lit, mysterious aircraft as she glanced out of her bedroom window at 2 a.m. on Monday.

"I'm convinced it was a U.F.O.—a spaceship," she told the Star. "It was oblong shaped and about the length of a bus.

"It was surrounded by half-an-hour. It disappeared about 10 smaller, brightly lit objects. And there were a lot of flashing lights.

"There were windows and I could see shapes inside," Mrs. Grant, of 12, Copperworks-road, added.

CUP OF TEA

She said she had got up to make a cup of tea and was returning to bed when she saw it.

The object was hovering about 150ft. from the ground just past the railway station. There was a mist or cloud over it.

"I stood in the window and stared out at it for about

FULL REPORT

A spokesman for the R.A.F. said that they could not speculate on the alleged sighting. Mrs. Grant would have to give a full report to police who would pass it on to the R.A.F. headquarters in London.

"It would then be examined thoroughly," said the spokesman. "The object could be anything — a ball-

oon or a private aircraft." A spokesman for Llanelli police said no U.F.O. sightings had been reported to them.

Had the whole population of Beeston witnessed this sighting, or merely several independent witnesses, the sighting would be hailed as a dramatic Close Encounter, as it is, the case simply adds to the mystery that is the UFO.

1978 ended with one last reported UFO sighting, this time from Otley, where several people observed three cigar shaped objects arch over the town

UFO mystery

... And this is what the Adel sky-watchers saw

By TONY HARNEY

This is the first startling picture of the Adel UFO that has baffled Leeds residents.



Mr Michael Tebb — the man who took the startling picture.

Yet three days after scores of families in the Adel area of Leeds watched the strange flickering lights hovering and banking in the night sky for over an hour there was still no official explanation of the sightings today.

This picture, taken by an Adel resident, shows just what the sky watchers saw.

Armed with a telephoto lens amateur photographer Michael Tebb, an insurance broker, of The Meadows, Adel, took a series of time exposure photographs of the mystery lights.

Hovered

"A friend rang me from Oakwood and asked if I could see the lights and both my mother and myself looked out of the window of our house.

"We sat and watched the lights for about an hour, turning red, blue, green and white. At first I thought it must be a plane until it disappeared at tremendous speed and then returned hovering and banking in the sky," he said.

"At the same time there were other lights flashing across the sky and then we saw something which looked like a fireball flash across the night sky.

"I am not a UFO nut and can only say what I saw, but of course I have no idea what it was.

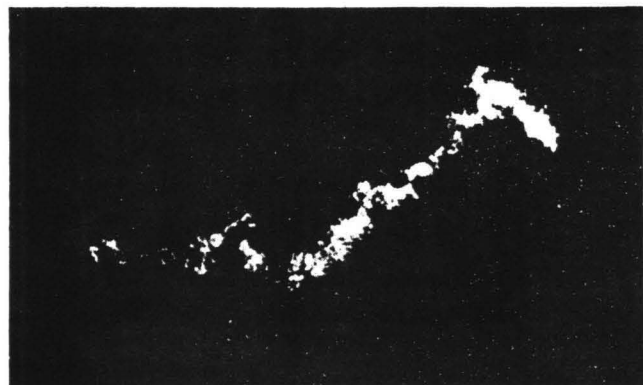
Since the Yorkshire Evening Post first received reports of the strange sighting there has been no explanation forthcoming for their presence in the sky despite widespread inquiries by the paper.

A spokesman for the Air Traffic Controllers at Leeds Bradford Airport said: "It was certainly not one of our aircraft.

"We had nothing in the sky at this time. We did receive reports of the lights, but could not trace or see anything from here.

"One thought at the time from our senior air traffic controller was that it might have been an aircraft climbing from Manchester Airport into our area and they do sometimes seem to stand still in the sky.

Mr. Graham Birdsall, chairman of the Yorkshire UFO Society, said investigators would be interviewing some of the witnesses.

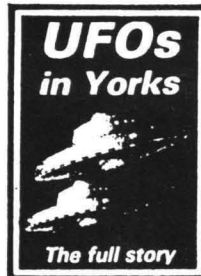


UFO — this time exposure picture taken by Mr. Michael Tebb shows the strange lights hovering over Adel. Mr. Tebb used a 30-second exposure to show the trail left by the UFO.

YORKSHIRE EVENING POST, Leeds, England - Sept. 29, 1983

Mystery lights in road centre

A POLICE officer's close encounter with a UFO on a well-lit Todmorden road is described by author Jenny Randles in the fourth part of this adaptation of her book "The Pennine UFO Mystery."



DURING the UFO "Wave" of November 1980, Alan Godfrey was a 33-year-old police officer, happily married, with two children, living in Todmorden.

He was at this time village bobby for the small community of Walsden, a hillside hamlet on the edge of Soyland Moor.

His colleagues and friends describe him as practical and down to earth and a fine, all-round policeman, a stickler for detail.

He had always been sceptical about UFOs and had no interest in them or in science fiction.

In the early hours of Friday, November 28, 1980, he was near the end of his shift — at 5 a.m. — when he was called to investigate a report of a herd of cows said to have been seen wandering around a council house estate.

He had turned on the Burnley Road when a bright light, seemingly on the road ahead, caught his attention. "It was strange, something attracted me to it. I had thought it was a bus and I wouldn't normally go to look at a bus."

He moved his Ford Escort Panda car over the wet road, glistening in the sodium street lights. He came to within 100ft. of the thing and then stopped, realising he was face to face with the strangest object he had ever seen.

It was dome-shaped, not unlike a child's spinning top. The top and base were both

slightly curved and two-thirds of the way up was a line of five windows which contrasted darkly with the bright fluorescence of the rest of the object.

But although it was bright, it did not hurt his eyes to look at it. He could also tell his headlights were reflecting off what looked to be a metallic surface. It was not an illusion. This was a solid object.

Alan, though taken aback, sat there watching the imposing UFO and taking account of as much detail as he could. He noticed that the top seemed stationary while the bottom rotated anticlockwise.

He made accurate assessments of its size and dimensions based on the way it spanned the road width, between two street lamps, with most of its bulk below their height. He could even see the bushes and trees by the roadside shaking, although elsewhere the calm night was not creating such an effect. He presumed this was due to the object.

Then he picked up his radio and tried to call base. He had a hand walkie-talkie system and a car communicator, operating on two separate frequencies. But neither gave any response.

After the failure of his attempt to summon help he decided to sketch what he was observing. He drew the looming object and later could add the specific dimensions — 20ft. across, 14ft. high, hovering five feet above the road surface. It is interesting to note, and a testament to the nerve of our police force, that on all occasions I know of where this valuable instant sketching has been done the witnesses were police officers.

All this took, he thought, about a minute. Then reality shifted in a remarkable way. One second he was sitting there, the next second he was still in the car, but 100 yards or so further down the

road. The object had gone — he was staring into a dark and empty night.

When he reported his sighting to colleagues at the station, he was told he must have seen the "flying squad." He decided not to make an official report.

When he returned to duty the following night he was greeted with a different atmosphere. After Alan had gone home a man driving from Burnley to Littleborough had come in and reported seeing a bluish white light meandering along the valley near Todmorden around 5 a.m.

Alan was encouraged by this to make an official report and to check with head quarters at Bradford. From here he learned that three police officers on the Halifax force had also seen something the previous night.

The officers were John Porter, Howard Turnpenny and W.Pc. Julie Baxter who had been searching the moors between Halifax and Hebden Bridge for some stolen motorcycles. While near Cold Edge Dam, near Wainstalls, they saw a steel-blue ball of light over the moors to the north, looking as if it were above Oxenhope. The time was 4.49 a.m. just 20 minutes before Alan Godfrey's encounter.

They got out of the car and the object came into view again, now very large (bigger than the full moon they estimate) and pulsing in a low rhythmic throb. It was moving across a substantial area of sky in arcs and zig-zags.

The object's significance becomes evident when compared with Alan Godfrey's very strange story, for he seems to have been given a privileged close-up view of this fantastic object.

Adapted from "The Pennine UFO Mystery," by Jenny Randles (Granada, £1.50).

HERALD, Folkestone, England - Oct. 14, 1983

Couple seek UFO spotters

A COUPLE who are convinced they spotted a UFO speeding across Folkestone are appealing to people with similar experiences to come forward.

David and Dorothy King are firm believers in unidentified flying objects since they saw "a brilliant white light hovering over Folkestone."

"The brilliant light lit up everything around it and it moved at such considerable speed it has convinced me it was a UFO," said David of Winehouse Lane, Capel.

"We know that sightings have been made on Sugar Loaf Hill, Folkestone, but we would be interested to know if anyone else has had a similar experience," commented his wife.

Their daughter Dot who now lives in Suffolk has had a lifelong fascination with the subject.

She is a member of the British Unidentified Object Research Association and a UFO Investigator.

"I know my parents well enough to know they would never exaggerate and I am totally convinced what they saw was a UFO," she said.

Though David and Dorothy dismissed UFOs as "a load of rubbish" before their personal sighting they are adamant about their existence now.

"I have seen one so how can I doubt it," said David, a retired catering manager for the Maidstone and District Road Car Company.

THIS week, the British UFO Research Association holds its 21st anniversary conference. The YEP begins today an intriguing series which details some of the many UFO sightings in Yorkshire. In this first article, GRAHAM W. BIRDSALL, Chairman of the Yorkshire UFO Society, tells the story of the "Meanwood Landing" in Leeds.

● Illustration by MARK BIRDSALL.



The 'Meanwood Landing' mystery



YORKSHIRE is the largest county in England, and whilst most of its native inhabitants go about their everyday business, a dedicated team of individuals seek out an enigma that has baffled mankind for decades. They are members of the Yorkshire UFO Society, an organisation that investigates sightings whenever, and wherever they occur within the county, and beyond. During the last several years, they have unearthed some 300 sightings, and beginning tonight, we take a closer look at some of the most mysterious and unusual cases from our files, starting with THE MEANWOOD LANDING.

On February 22nd 1979, Leeds like much of the North of England, was under several inches of snow. That evening two 14-year-old girls were sledging happily atop the Meanwood Valley. Lynsey Tebbs and Susan Pearson had just finished another "run" down a steep slope when both were suddenly aware of a large cluster of lights directly above them. It was 6.45 p.m. An object, displaying three green lights, and in its centre a red light, was hovering some 200 feet above them.

Without warning, it gave off a high piercing whine, and began to descend. It spiralled down, but some 100 feet above the ground its speed dropped, and the object straightened up. The whining noise became a low hum as it slowly descended to the snowy footpath, some 30

feet from the bemused girls. The humming sound then ceased, and the lights from the object glowed against the soft snow.

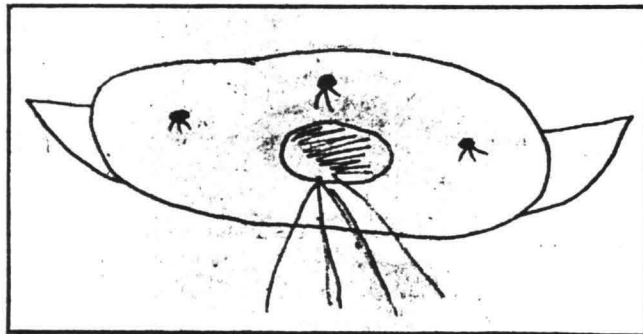
Fear of coming face to face with the unknown then caused both girls to turn and run, but having put a distance of some 50 yards between them and the object, human curiosity prompted them to stop, turn around, and gaze long and hard at the object. They later described it as being grey in colour, approximately the length of a car, and about four feet in height.

Skyward

Some three to four minutes later, the object suddenly began to rise, and it hummed softly as it rose to a height of 100 feet. It hovered a short while then moved in a direction that was to take it right over the girls, but then it veered away to the girls' right and descended once more, further down the valley bottom. It was now resting awkwardly on a steep bank, some 80 feet from the girls. There it remained for some two minutes, and just as before, the lights could clearly be seen.

The girls watched with baited breath, and they did not have too long to wait for it suddenly began to wobble, then quickly rose skyward, straight up, to become no bigger than one of the thousands of tiny specks that filled the starlit sky. Both girls hurried home to tell their parents of the incident.

Quickly realising that they had both witnessed something strange, their parents separated them and got them to describe their encounter, and draw the object. The girls des-



Lynsey Tebbs's drawing of the mysterious object.

cribed the incident, and drew pictures of the object, and when the parents compared each other's notes, they were left in no doubt that a remarkable encounter had taken place.

Once we had learned of the incident, a detailed and exhaustive investigation then ensued. The characters of both girls was important to us, and both sets of parents convinced us that they were not prone to making up elaborate stories. Neither girl was interested in UFO's, or similar mysteries.

Trips

Importantly, neither girl showed any enthusiasm at suddenly finding themselves the centre of attention, but both later agreed to accompany us to the scene, and point out both landing areas. Once these had been located, we then began the task of combing both areas to determine if any unusual marks had been left by the object.

Having made several trips back and forth to each site, we discovered a curious depression in the snow which was now fairly hard ice. This took the form of an "E" shape, and in its centre was a circular hollow, six inches in diameter. This shape could be found at both landing sites. The landing area further down the steep slopes offered us more mysterious shapes, and these were measured.

Lying a few inches from another "E" shape was a circular piece of

ice which was again six inches in diameter. This was placed within the hollow that could be found inches away, and it fitted perfectly. We scoured the surrounding area to see if similar marks could be found, but they could not.

Analysis by Leeds University failed to explain the marks, nor was anything unusual found in the samples that were given them from both landing areas. It should be noted that the landing area further down the valley bank where the object came down is very steep, and no footprints could be found at all, not even the pawmarks of animals could be seen.

The encounter was featured in the Yorkshire Evening Post, and its morning sister paper, the Yorkshire Post, also included a drawing made by one of the girls. This was seen by two ambulance drivers at Pontefract, who later wrote to the Yorkshire Post stating that they had seen the very same object later that same evening fly directly overhead of their station. They too had drawn a picture of the object to show to colleagues, when compared with the girls' they were identical!

Circular

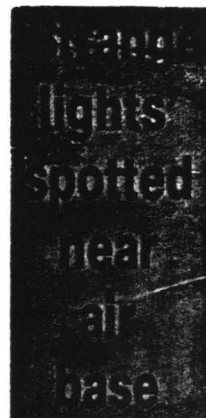
Lynsey Tebbs is now 19, and recalls the incident as though it were yesterday. "I still keep looking," she said, "but have seen nothing as dramatic." Does she think the object she and Susan saw that night

was a UFO? she simply replied "I believe."

One of the first recorded landings of a UFO in the post-war era came in the Spring of 1952, when at Meiningen, East Germany, a 60-foot long circular object was observed in the grounds of a large forest. This caused "concern in high places." There are no accurate figures for United Kingdom landing reports, but in 1974 the American based Mutual UFO Network reported that it had 570 landing reports on its files, all of which had physical traces found in the immediate areas. MUFO is one of 70 major UFO groups in the United States, and it is estimated that landings world wide run into many thousands.

Only recently at Melbourne, Australia, the airport authorities contacted the police over a suspected crash landing of an unknown aircraft which they had plotted on radar. The police were directed to the crash site, only to discover not an aircraft, but a UFO, down in some fields.

The police managed to approach the craft to within 100 feet when it suddenly shot straight up into the air. It proceeded to play "cat and mouse" with the radar networks for some five hours. One of the officers at the scene said later, "That has got to be the weirdest 'aircraft' I've ever seen."



REPORTS of strange lights in the sky near Bentwaters and Woodbridge air bases have revived local interest in Unidentified Flying Objects.

The reported new sightings, at Hollesley and Alderton, come in the wake of official confirmation from USAF authorities of a report of a UFO landing in nearby Rendlesham Forest three years ago.

And while people are keeping an open mind on the latest reports, the lights were seen by at least eight people in the two villages.

On Friday evening at about 7.45 p.m. Mrs. Sandra Button, 37, of Coronation Drive, Hollesley, saw three lights forming a triangle in the sky, as she walked down her garden path to a baker's van.

About five minutes later she was joined by her neighbour, Mrs. Mary Potter, who drew her attention to the lights.

"They were still there," said Mrs. Button. "They were high up over the marshes. We watched them for about 20 minutes and they did not move."

The two women were joined by Mrs. Button's husband John, 40, and the couple's three children, Stephen, 16, Sharon, 13, and Darren, nine.

"As the lights rose we could see small red and green lights, and we could make out three triangular shapes," she said. "There was a weird humming noise as they passed overhead."

"My husband was very sceptical about it all until he heard the noise. It was unlike anything we had heard before — in no way was it a plane."

A few miles away at Alderton, Mr. William Wright, 34, of Mill Hoo, was preparing for a fishing trip at about 8.15 p.m. when he saw the lights from his garden.

He described them as three large white lights forming a triangle. He said that as they moved towards him over the sea the formation altered slightly, suggesting three separate aircraft. As the lights passed slowly overhead he could see a red tail light behind each main light.

"The lights were constant, they were not flashing," he said.

"I am keeping an open mind on the subject. We see a lot of aircraft in this area but this did not have the same speed or noise or feel about it."

The public affairs department at Bentwaters air base was unable to comment on the sightings, but spokeswoman Captain Kathy McCollom confirmed that a C130 Hercules transport aircraft was due at that time on Friday evening.

Another sighting

FOLLOWING this newspaper's account of a UFO encounter near Throop, a Christchurch woman has come forward to report a similar sighting in the area.

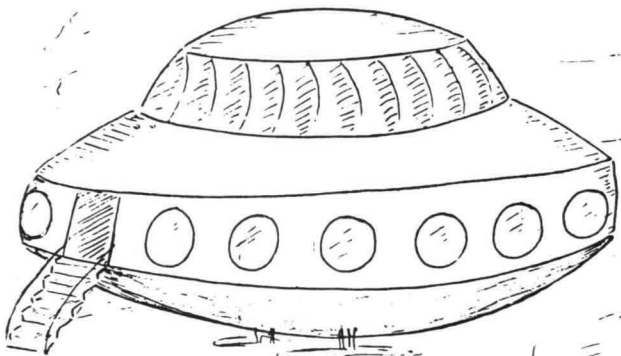
It happened two months ago as Mrs. Sally Vowles was looking out of an upstairs window at her home in Links Drive, Christchurch, around 10 pm.

She reports she saw an object ringed by red and green lights hovering over the new hospital site to one side of the construction crane.

She said: "I'm sure it wasn't a helicopter. It hovered for a full 10 minutes then slowly descended and I lost sight of it. It was definitely controlled."

IPSMICH EVENING STAR, Suffolk, England - Oct. 12, 1983

ADVERTISER, Bournemouth, England - Oct. 5, 1983



Mr. Fowler's impression of the "flying saucer" described by Mr. Burtoo.

ALF'S 'CLOSE ENCOUNTER'

by DEBBIE COLLINS



Mr. Burtoo points to where he saw the spacecraft on the canal bank.

PENSIONER Alfred Burtoo's close encounter with little green men while he was angling on the canal bank at Aldershot is no fisherman's tale.

That is the opinion of UFO experts who are convinced that his amazing story is "absolutely true."

Not only did the beings from outer space speak to 77-year-old Mr. Burtoo, of Pegasus Avenue, Aldershot, but he claims they also took him aboard their flying saucer.

After a thorough investigation of the alleged happening, Mr. Omar Fowler, of the Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena, said: "I have been investigating UFO sightings for 16 years, and this is the most sensational thing that has ever happened!"

Mr. Burtoo, accompanied by his dog Tiny, was fishing in the Basingstoke Canal, near the Government Road bridge, when, he says, the flying saucer landed.

"I saw a bright light coming towards me over North Town and it hovered just over the railway line.

he did not think people would believe him.

"It was not until last week when an American air force officer revealed he had seen UFOs in Norfolk I decided to speak out. I am now inclined to think that lots of people have seen these things but don't report them because they do not want to be made fools of.

"I did not believe in flying saucers until this happened to me."

His wife Margery said: "I was a bit frightened when he told me, but I did not take any more notice. It has been bothering him ever since and he has been losing sleep over it.

"He obviously believes he saw what he saw and I believe him."

A sceptical Mr. Fowler went to interview Mr. Burtoo at his home on Monday evening this week. But next day, his group issued an official statement, saying it was convinced his story was true.

Said Mr. Fowler: "We can confirm that a number of the incidents he said occurred are consistent with known UFO characteristics."

Unexplained

He added: "I was very sceptical about this when I went to interview Mr. Burtoo and I expected it to be fantasy. But he came out with things he could not possibly have known about unless he had been studying UFOs for years — things about the shape and inside of the object.

"I am convinced his story is absolutely true and this actually happened."

The Surrey branch will now be carrying out a detailed investigation.

Mr. Fowler would like to hear from anyone who has had a similar experience or saw anything on that night.

● There have been dozens of unexplained reports of unidentified flying objects in this area over the past 15 years.

In April, 1978, eight people, including a policeman, reported clear sightings of a UFO in the skies above Farnborough and Ash.

Accent

"It then settled down on the bank. I went to have a look and two forms came towards me dressed in pale green suits. They were about 4ft. tall and had dark visors covering their faces.

One of them beckoned me, and I followed them to the steps. I wasn't afraid — I was more curious than anything."

Mr. Burtoo went on: "The object was made of a kind of burnished aluminium and I climbed some steps and went inside.

"I walked across the room and one of them spoke to me in a kind of sing-song voice, with an accent something between Russian and Chinese.

"He asked me to stand under the amber light. I could not see it at first because there was a kind of black tube blocking my view. Then I saw it and went and did as I was told.

"After a few moments they asked me to turn round, which I did. They asked me how old I was and I said 78 next birthday. Then they said I could go because I was too old and infirm for their purpose."

Mr. Burtoo says he then left the spaceship, and was halfway along the towpath when it took off. It went over the military cemetery and then off towards Tongham.

Mr. Burtoo's "close encounter" happened at about 1.15 a.m. on August 12. He told his wife and son and a neighbour about it the next day but did not report it officially because

Mystery of UFO sighting



* UFO spotters, Vanessa and Russell Brook and Rachel Whiteoak (right).

Three Utley children were terrified after seeing what they think was a UFO on the hill above their homes.

The dome-shaped object — as long as three houses — was there for a few minutes before taking off.

Rachel Whiteoak, 11, and her nine-year-old friend Vanessa Brook were returning home from Utley recreation ground as darkness fell when they saw a bright light on the hill near the Steeton Jubilee Tower.

Vanessa says they hurried back to her house in Skipton Road and told her 12-year-old brother Russell. "We were scared. I ran in and started crying — I could hardly speak."

Her mother asked Russell to put Vanessa's bike away and then take Rachel to her house in Birchwood Drive.

"We were taking the bike round to the garage when Rachel looked up and saw the light," says Russell, who like Vanessa and Rachel attends Highfield School.

"The spaceship sort of curled in and took off. My uncle and aunt came out and saw it as a dot in the sky. It shone brightly and disappeared.

"It was plain white, like a bowl but flat, with a triangle cut out of the top with a spire. There was a red square glowing on it and on the outside it was going brown then white."

Mark Birdsall, the Yorkshire UFO Society's research officer, says one of his investigators has spoken to the children.

"He was convinced this is not just childhood imagination. It follows other reports of UFOs in the Keighley area — and two hours after the sighting a large red object was observed over Beck Hill in Leeds."

THE GREAT UFO DEBATE CONTINUES

Mystery light puzzles DJ David

By HUGH DEHN

RADIO chatshow host David Jacobs told yesterday how a car carrying himself and politicians Shirley Williams and Jonathan Porritt was buzzed by a UFO.

The amazing incident, which follows the great UFO cover-up campaign reported by the News of the World, happened on Friday night as the trio were being driven from Nottinghamshire to London.

As they were travelling between M1 junctions 21 and 22 in Leicestershire a brilliant ball of white light shot across their path at supersonic speed.

Jacobs, who had been returning from the 35th anniversary of Any Questions, said yesterday: "It was extraordinary. I've never seen anything move so quickly."

"Suddenly a brilliant white light with a 'tail' shot from left to right in front of us at a height of about 250 to 300 feet—then disappeared."

SDP President Shirley Williams, sitting in the back of the official BBC car with Mr. Porritt, the chairman of Ecology Party, said last night: "David and the driver suddenly said: 'My goodness, what was that!'"

"Whatever it was, it was moving extremely quickly. We didn't see it. It couldn't have been a plane."

When Jacobs mentioned the sighting on his Radio Two show yesterday the



DAVID JACOBS: Buzzed



BBC switchboards were jammed with callers saying they too had seen a mysterious ball of light on Friday night.

Air Traffic Control at nearby East Midlands Airport say they saw nothing on their radar to confirm the sighting and the Ministry of Defence say the incident was not recorded by Britain's early warning tracking station at Fylingdales, North Yorkshire.

DEFENCE MINISTER Michael Heseltine is to be quizzed in Parliament about the News of the World's amazing revelation that a UFO landed in Bri-

tain and was the subject of a massive official cover-up.

Tory MP Major Sir Patrick Wall is to ask Mr Heseltine searching questions about what happened when the space craft landed at Tangham Wood, just half a mile from the United States Air Force base at RAF Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Sir Patrick, MP for Haltemprice, East Yorkshire, and a senior member of the 11-man Select Committee on Defence, said: "There is so much evidence there must be something in the UFO theory and whatever is known should be made public."

Sir Patrick, a former Royal Marine and holder of the Military Cross, said he believed UFOs could very well come from another planet—or another galaxy.

JET PILOT FIRED SHOT AT SAUCER

A DRAMATIC report of how American Air Force pilots tried to shoot down a UFO has been revealed to us.

The hushed-up account says a radar site near a fighter base picked up a UFO doing 700 mph.

It slowed to 100 and two F-86s were scrambled to intercept.

One closed on the UFO at about 3,000 feet. The UFO began to speed off but the pilot managed to get within 500 yards of it for a short time.

The report says: "It was definitely saucer-shaped."

"When the range reached 1,000 yards the pilot armed his guns and fired in an attempt to down the saucer."

"He failed and the UFO pulled away rapidly, vanishing in the distance."

A copy of the report,

from a secret manual for American pilots under training, was given to one of Britain's leading UFO experts, Timothy Good.

He has also obtained some CIA records.

One tells how a British European Airways pilot saw a UFO in 1978 on a flight from Moscow to London.

The pilot described "a blinding, single source, constant intensity and stationary light" off the starboard flight path over Lithuania.

Flying flutter

JOINER Michael Howell is over the moon—because of a £700 wager on aliens landing on Earth.

He reckons he is on to a betting cert after reading in the News of the World about the Suffolk UFO.

Now Michael, of Haigh Moor Road, Tingley, Yorkshire, is trying to claim £70,000 from Ladbroke's for his 100-1 bet.

But a spokesman for Ladbroke's said: "We won't pay a penny until we have official confirmation this incident happened."

"Then we'll try to find the aliens that landed and ask them to present the cash to Mr Howell."



MICHAEL: Odds on aliens

UFO sightings

SUFFOLK UFO investigators, investigating the reports of strange sightings in Tangham Forest in East Suffolk, say they have been deluged with information from local people.

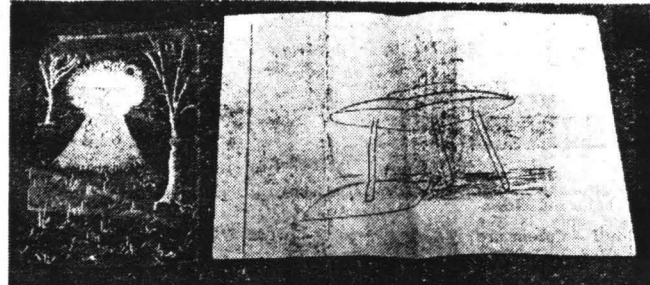
Brenda Butler, from Leiston, said since recent publicity about their researches into reports of strange lights in the sky over Suffolk in

December 1980 many eye witnesses had come forward.

The new interest follows the publication of USAF official reports of the sightings.

Mr. Butler said the local researchers would be taking full reports from all the local people who were puzzled by what they saw almost three years ago.

EVENTING NEWS, Manchester, England - Oct. 12, 1983



WITNESSES' SKETCHES of the "space craft" as it lands (left) and at rest.

'Space craft landing' — call for inquiry

By BERNARD SPILSBURY

A TEAM of Manchester UFO researchers is to call for a public inquiry by a High Court judge into reports of "flying saucer" landings near an air base in Suffolk.

Jenny Randles, national director of research for the UFO Research Association, added: "We are so convinced that the evidence we have makes a case that we are fully prepared to hand it over to an independent panel of scientists. We are totally aware that we already have a case which unquestionably demands an answer."

The researchers claim official documents prove

that United States Air Force security men had a "close encounter" with an unidentified flying object which landed in a forest half a mile from the RAF Bentwaters base near Woodbridge, Suffolk, in the early hours of December 27, 1980.

Three days later there was another sighting of the UFO, also in Rendlesham Forest near the NATO air base, by USAF and RAF men, say the researchers, who include Det.

Chief Inspector Norman Collinson, deputy head of the Greater Manchester Police fraud squad, and Altrincham solicitor Mr Harry Harris.

A report on the incident was written by Lt Col Charles Halt, the deputy base commander, on January 13, 1981, and sent to the British Ministry of Defence. It is a copy of this document, obtained from the US government by means of the Americans' freedom of information legislation, which has persuaded the UFO researchers that it is in the public interest that there should be a full inquiry.



IN CONFERENCE at Altrincham (from left): Jenny Randles, research director of the UFO Research Association, Harry Harris, Brenda Butler, Dot Street and Mike Sacks

Bentwaters 'UFO' simply a lighthouse, paper says

LONDON (AP) — A newspaper's claim that a UFO landed in Britain in a ball of red light was dismissed by a rival publication Sunday, saying that the light was from a lighthouse.

The mass-circulation News of the World claimed a week ago that the UFO had three beings inside it in silver suits when it came down in a forest near RAF Bentwaters in Suffolk in eastern England, at the end of 1980.

The tabloid Sunday People sent a reporter to the site and quoted Vince Thurkette, an officer for the state-run Forestry Commission, as saying: "The light from the Orford Ness lighthouse, on the coast, can be seen through the trees. From the hill where the site is, it appears to be practically at ground level and, of course, it

flashes.

"As you walk toward it, because of the lie of the land, it disappears."

The News of the World said a report by USAF Lt. Col. Charles Halt on the UFO landing supported what some patrolmen had seen and that his report was suppressed in a cover-up.

The Sunday People quoted a USAF spokesman as saying that Halt's report was based solely on what the patrolmen had reported they saw on Dec. 27, 1980, and it was never classified as secret.

The News of the World returned to the story in its latest issue Sunday and said that, since it published the first report, people from all over Britain have reported UFO sightings.

TRANSLATIONS

TRANSLATION CREDIT: George Andrews

City and country of incident: Lachute, Quebec, Canada
Date of incident: November 25, 1979
Name of paper and date of clips: LE JOURNAL DE QUEBEC, August 6, August 13, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Quebec, Quebec, Canada

ABDUCTED BY EXTRA-TERRESTRIALS

(SUMMARY)

As soon as he got out of his car, and without knowing how it happened, he found himself on top of a stairway with a door in front of him. From this position, he could see his parked car in the big room. The fright he had felt upon being abducted had now gone away.

However, as he turned around, he had the surprise of his life: two beings with human shape were standing before him. Mr. X tells us one was male and the other female. The female did not have breasts, but he decided she was female because of the bone structure of her shoulders and beneath her neck. A general description would be of gray-green skin with a rough texture. Almond-shaped eyes, slightly larger than our own. Their bodies are well-built, but their shoulders are larger than ours. Their hands have five fingers, as ours do.

Mr. X and the two beings did not speak to each other, but there was mutual understanding. He understood that he was to lie down on a table a few feet away in a sort of operating room. Mr. X remained very calm, the two beings had inspired him to trust them. Thirteen sucking devices, such as we use for electro-cardiograms, were attached to his body. Each one was attached to equipment he did not understand. They also took a skin sample by scratching under his right ear.

When the examination was finished, a rather ludicrous incident occurred. Even though Mr. X was in unknown territory, he retained his personality. Being fully

(continued on page 14)

IPSMICH EVENING STAR, Suffolk, England Oct. 10, 1983

(continued from page 13)

conscious of what he saw, he realized that he was being used as a guinea pig without any remuneration whatsoever. He therefore decided to bring back proof, a small block of metal that resembled stainless steel, about 3 by 5 inches. As he was leaving the room, this souvenir was detected. The beings warned him that he could not bring back objects that did not belong to his dimension. A dispute took place. He wanted to inspect the rest of the spaceship, but at first this request was refused. The male became unfriendly. The female, however, showed him around some of the main parts.

First of all, the control room. Strangely enough, no one was in it! Along the circular wall were screens like radar screens and push-buttons. In the center of the room was a pale brown column, like a submarine periscope, which had eight hand-grips on it. Seven of these controlled different functions of the craft, and one of them controlled the seven others.

There were portholes on the wall through which one could see the exterior of the craft and its size. Its outside consisted of T-shaped tiles fitted into each other, each one about the size of a double bed. The craft was attached to an identical but much larger craft, which was about the size of Montreal's olympic stadium.

After visiting the control room, Mr. X was allowed a glimpse of the engine. What he saw consisted of eight rings with magnets at intervals around a column in the center of the craft. There were "turbines" inside these magnets. It all worked by magnetism and "free energy."

The visit being over with, he was told to get back into his car, because he was about to be returned to Earth. He would hear a count-down from 10 to 0, at which point he would start the car and push down on the accelerator. A trap-door would open, and he would find himself on the road at the same place from which he had been taken.

This is what happened, except that the craft was not correctly aligned with the road and upon leaving, Mr. X lost control, striking a traffic sign. The two strange beings apologized and said they would return.

CREDIT: F.A.D.A. (Translation Credit: George Andrews)

Name of paper and date of clip: FRANCE-SOIR, September 24, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Paris, France

UFOs FILMED FOR THE FIRST TIME

Philippe Schneider has a doctorate in history and the humanities, as well as a master's degree in astronomy. Last Thursday, he showed members of the press a film that he had already shown to government officials in the cabinet of the minister Charles Hernu.

The subject is - hold on to your hats! - the first real documentary film of UFOs, taken during the night of December 19-20, 1978, near the west coast of Jade Island, from an airplane flying over New Zealand. A cameraman of the Australian television accomplished this feat, while returning from an assignment. He had the presence of mind to set up his equipment in the cockpit beside the pilot as soon as he noticed a luminous object that changed its shape and color as it moved near the plane.

American experts who examined the film with the utmost care concluded that it was entirely authentic. The radars of two different New Zealand airports confirmed the presence of the UFO at that time.

However, there is something even more strange than the ballet of Martians around the airplane: the tremendous embarrassment of Earthlings confronted with undeniable, irrefutable evidence for the first time. The high-ranking government officials and military officers refused to make any comment whatsoever after having seen the film. Since then, police reports concerning UFOs have been made inaccessible to the public. The nuclear physicist Dr. Friedman, revealed to Dr. Schneider the existence of a secret American regulation forbidding pilots to make public statements about UFOs under penalty of fifteen years in jail and fifteen thousand dollars fine!

Even more extraordinary: some of the Apollo 15 pictures taken on the Moon have not been released. Apparently they show the famous jeep used on the Moon being followed by two luminous oblong objects flying at a low altitude.

It is too bad that we have not been told about this before. It would have silenced the jokers who have been saying since July 27, 1971, that our trip to the Moon was not worthwhile.

CREDIT: Jane Thomas (Translation Credit: Luis Gonzalez)

City and country of incident: La Plata, Argentina
Date of incident: April 7, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: DIARIO POPULAR, April 21, 1983
City and country of newspaper: (City Unknown), Argentina

"I WAS FOLLOWED BY A UFO"

A businessman from La Plata alleged to have been chased by a very bright object during 200 kilometers.

A strange incident happened to a businessman from La Plata who--according to his story--was chased by a strange light when he was returning home from Villa Gesell. He was so impressed that he arrived home "almost frozen, with gooseflesh" after covering the distance of 200 kilometers in about 2½ hours, driving his Mercedes Benz sometimes at more than 200 kilometers per hour.

Mr. Semacendi is a businessman, 37, who kept the incident to himself until he decided to make it public as advice for other people who may find themselves in the same situation.

Like a flash. - Mr. Semacendi chose a beautiful night for returning home. He left Villa Gesell a little after 21:00. "Everything was normal, the night was without a moon, but perfect visibility. We traveled about 150 kilometers per hour. On crossing a bridge, there was a very bright light, like a flash." The driver talked with his companion, who also saw the light. "We were both impressed and frightened. I remembered these stories everyone has heard at times about abductions, extraterrestrials, etc. The car was slowing, so I pressed the accelerator. We did not understand what was happening, but we were sure something was about to happen."

A yellow light. - "The light was beside the road. It could not have been lightening because the sky was clear. We found ourselves going at more than 200 kilometers per hour and the light was almost on the back. It was a yellow blinding light, coming from an object like a rugby ball. It moved to the side and positioned itself at the level of the back window. I asked my friend to roll down the window, but he was absolutely frightened and did not move."

Mr. Semacendi relates how after a while he saw a car coming and noted how, as the other car approached, the light receded. "When we passed each other, the light had disappeared. But a few seconds later, I discovered two lights through the driving mirror, following us again. We were making more than 200 kilometers per hour but they seemed to move faster (about 500 kilometers per hour). When they came closer, they merged into one, again over the back of the car. When we arrived at the ticket cabinet of General Conesa, it disappeared again. I thought about telling everything, but instead I quickly paid and continued my trip at maximum speed."

The light appeared for a third time as if it wanted to continue the chase. "We arrived at Pipinas where I made a wrong turn. I stopped, drove backwards and returned to the main road. The light was not there. We arrived at La Plata 2 hours and 45 minutes after leaving Gesell. It was a terrible experience. Now, I believe in UFOs."

City and country of incident: Gualaguaychu, Entre Rios, Argentina
Date of incident: April 29, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: TIEMPO ARGENTINO, April 30, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

A BRIGHT AND COLORED UFO IN ENTRE RIOS

A large group of residents from this town claim to have seen a UFO, "very bright, that performed a spectacular show in the night sky."

According to the owners of a gas station in the northern part of the town, the flying object, still unidentified, appeared above Road 14, about 5:20 a.m. "It was a big ball of light that made circles and zig-zags in the sky for about 5 minutes," said one of the workers.

He also saw a car traveling on Road 14 which "was dragged backwards by a strange force." He cannot say whether the driver was in reverse gear, but he was sure that the animals carried began to bleat and the radio stopped.

City and country of incident: Totorá, Vitichi and Cazon, Bolivia
Date of incident: May 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: TIEMPO ARGENTINO, May 4, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

UFOs FRIGHTEN MANY PEOPLE IN SOUTHERN BOLIVIA

La Paz. - Residents from 3 small villages in southern Bolivia are frightened these days because of strange flying objects with blinding lights, according to "Presencia," a newspaper of this capital.

"In the surroundings of the mines of Tapy and Totorá, Vitichi and Cazon, workers and residents have seen landed UFOs with blinding lights. This has created a panic in the area and many people sleep on the hills."

The villages cited are near Tupiza, a few kilometers from the boundary with Argentina.

City and country of incident: Arica and Huepúl, Chile
Date of incident: June 11, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: TIEMPO ARGENTINO, June 12, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

THE UFOs AMAZE CHILE AGAIN. DOZENS OF WITNESSES TALK ABOUT LUMINOUS "CIGARS"

Santiago de Chile. - A UFO was seen last Thursday at Iquique, 1800 kilometers north of Santiago, and yesterday two more were seen in Arica and Huepúl.

The one seen in Arica, 2000 kilometers north of Santiago, was a bright giant "cigar" that moved at high speed over Putre.

In Huepúl, 700 kilometers south of Santiago, a UFO was seen by more than 200 children who were watching a football game when it stopped, hovering at less than 5 meters above the ground, allowing a detailed observation. It seems that the occupants of the extraterrestrial spaceship also wanted to watch the game. At least this is what the children thought because when the game interrupted by the object did not continue, the UFO departed very quickly and disappeared above the Andes.

City and country of incident: El Bolson, Rio Negro, Argentina
Date of incident: June 11, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: LA RAZON, June 16, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

A CONICAL UFO WITH COLORED LIGHTS SIGHTED IN EL BOLSON, RIO NEGRO

Neuquen. - In the town of El Bolson, 650 kilometers southwest of here, they still talk about the UFO sighted for 15 minutes last Saturday. The witnesses--including members of the police--agree that the UFO had a conical shape and many colored lights.

City and country of incident: Rivadavia, Argentina
Date of incident: June 20, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: CRÓNICA, June 21, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

A JOGGING UFO

Mendoza. - The local newspaper "Los Andes" publishes today some news from Rivadavia, 60 kilometers east of here, referring to a luminous UFO, seen by many people who were watching a football game in the local stadium. It appeared after 17:30 in the northwest, a silvery and bright object standing still in the sky. When the night arrived, it became another star.

City and country of incident: Rosario, Argentina
Date of incident: July 10, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: CRÓNICA, July 11, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

An unidentified flying object (UFO) was seen yesterday by some residents in the east suburbs of Rosario. The witnesses saw the UFO at 19:50. It was a big object, shaped like a whipping-top, with orange lights in its middle part. It was moving slowly toward the southeast after hovering for some minutes. "It was not a helicopter or an aircraft," said the witnesses.

City and country of incident: Cerros Colorados, La Rioja, Argentina
Date of incident: August 5, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: TIEMPO ARGENTINO, August 9, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

A UFO SIGHTED IN LA RIOJA. SEVERAL DRIVERS SAW IT FROM DIFFERENT PLACES

La Rioja. - A UFO was seen by several dozens in the place called Cerros Colorados, last Friday night. The UFO flew in a straight line over Route 74, about 100 kilometers west of our city. According to the eyewitness accounts, the UFO was seen for 3 minutes, disappearing with a vertiginous speed. "My eyes were not deceiving me," said one driver. "There was a giant disc with many colored lights. I stopped my car and looked at it, absolutely amazed." The bulk of the stories agree that the UFO was clearly visible in the starry night, without fog. Many accounts came from all over the area confirming the sighting of the object, but giving no more details.

A truck driver said, "I was driving on Route 74 when I noticed the UFO 400 meters ahead. It emitted lights of many colors, but made no noise. Suddenly it moved away at a terrible speed. I am used to seeing things of this kind on my trips. I am not afraid," he assured us.

City and country of incident: Vilotta de Chions and Cesena, Italy
Date of incident: August 8, 1983
Name of paper and date of clip: TIEMPO ARGENTINO, August 10, 1983
City and country of newspaper: Buenos Aires, Argentina

TWO 'CORN' UFOs IN ITALY

Porderone. - Two alleged UFOs have been observed in places near this town in northern Italy. In a corn field of Vilotta de Chions several witnesses saw a UFO landing in the field and disappearing. The UFO had a "cigar shape." Afterwards, they found a rectangle 32 meters long and 1.80 meters wide, completely burned.

A similar phenomenon took place in Cesena, also in a corn field, where a fisherman, Paolo Trevison, maintains that a circular trace on the ground was made by a VTOL aircraft that took off from the place.

There is a NATO base in the surroundings.



BYWAYS



Robert Kerr

Return of Texarkana's favorite monster

The monster crawled out of our swamps in 1972 and became a legend. It did things no one thought possible. And they say it's coming back.

Not the Fouke Monster. He hasn't been heard from in years.

No, the most famous phenomenon that emerged from the swamps south of Texarkana that summer was a movie, a low-budget flick called "The Legend Of Boggy Creek." It devoured every box office it got near and spit out some \$20 million in gross receipts.

It cost only a handful of shekels up front, but "Boggy Creek" wound up one of the 10 top moneymakers in the business that year.

Charles B. Pierce was a Texarkana ad salesman back when he decided to make a film about the creature long rumored to haunt the Sulphur River bottoms near Fouke, Ark.

The film certified him as a bankable moviemaker, and eight pictures later he's ready to do the sequel. Principal filming on "Boggy Creek II" will start around Fouke and Texarkana this week.

A few days earlier, Pierce took a break from his pre-production whirl to muse upon the vision that changed his life. Wearing cutoffs and Nike jogging shoes, he gazed across the cluttered desk in his Texarkana office at the walls blanketed with posters, props and assorted memorabilia from his films.

"'Boggy Creek' did get me started in the business, and it is probably the most critically acclaimed film I have done, believe it or not. It got just incredible reviews," he said.

"And because of that, the critics are going to look at 'Boggy Creek II' harder than any other motion picture I've done. They're going to be asking, 'Has he learned anything in 10 pictures?'"

Whatever the critics may decide Pierce has learned, the secret he's known from Day One and never forgotten is how to make a box-office winner on a shoestring.

"I've survived and am still making films because I've made films that

will play. Some have done better than others, but if they hadn't been financially successful I wouldn't still be in the business," he said.

"I've seen a lot of people since 'Boggy Creek' who said 'Boy, Charlie Pierce made that picture for less than \$200,000 and look at all that money it made.' So everybody grabbed a camera and ran off into the woods to make a movie. But there aren't too many of them around anymore."

"Hollywood considers anything less than \$2 million a low-budget movie. If that's the case, I haven't shot anything but low-budget movies. And I can assure you 'Boggy Creek II' will be a low-low-low-budget movie," he said.

Since "Boggy Creek" was filmed for such a pittance, and right in our backyard, and featured almost exclusively our friends and neighbors, it's often assumed around Texarkana that it was only a regional success.

Hardly. It played in major theaters across the country, creating lines outside ticket booths from New York to Los Angeles.

So how did Charlie Pierce, born in Hampton, Ark., and only a few years removed from his role as "Mayor Chuckles" on a local children's television show, pull it off?

"I had always wanted to make a movie, ever since I was a kid," he said. And I had a basic idea of how a film was made, from my work in television production."

"I really didn't understand enough about releasing a motion picture, but somehow I just always had it in my mind that we would get to play the film everywhere and it would be a success," he said. "I was surprised when it took off like it did, but I always thought it would make money."

While he shot "Boggy Creek" in documentary style and portrayed largely what had actually been reported about the 'Fouke monster,' Pierce will create the sequel from his imagination.

"'Boggy Creek II' is going to be strictly a fictional story. It will not

depict anybody's life or anybody's story. I'm using the title because it's well known and I had great success with," he said.

"It will explore the general idea that there are bigfoots and such creatures that may really exist out there in the woods," he said. "I'll be trying to scare people, but I'll also be trying to make them laugh some too."

The basic story line of the sequel will have a University of Arkansas professor bringing a team of students to Fouke to research the monster. He finds that the monster not only exists, but seems to be a family man as well.

Pierce wrote the script and will also play the professor, while his 18-year-old son Chuck - a four-film veteran in his father's productions - will play a student. The rest of the cast will be peopled almost exclusively by local actors Pierce interviewed last year.

Pierce says he's gearing every aspect of the film to reach the 18-25 age group that dominates movie audiences today. Part of that targeting will include a sort of super-Jeep Pierce is having built to liven up the chase scenes.

Still, he says he won't resort to what he calls "cheap impact" tricks, like nudity, or hard-core gore and profanity. "Boggy Creek II" will earn a PG rating, he promises.

He says "Sacred Ground" - his latest film, now showing in Texarkana - is probably the finest movie he's made, but that so far it doesn't appear likely to top his box office champ. For now that title should stay with "Winterhawk" and its some \$30 million in grosses.

And though Pierce likes the odds for "Boggy Creek II," scheduled to premier here in December, he isn't ready to guarantee it will top "Winterhawk" either.

"I like the script. It's a fun script, and it should work - if we can pull it off," he said.

"But all in all, I think I'd almost settle right now for half what 'Boggy Creek' did."



(Photo by Megan Price)

Dr. Warren Cook holds a sketch of "Bigfoot."

Castleton Professor A 'Bigfoot' Believer

By MEGAN PRICE

CASTLETON — Archaeologist and historian Dr. Warren L. Cook will attend a world premiere movie in California next week, starring a possible lost relative of mankind.

The documentary epic is entitled "In the Shadow of Bigfoot," and offers movie footage and still pictures purported to be photographs of the legendary creature.

The world premiere of "In the Shadow of Bigfoot" is expected to take place Sept. 15 in Redding, Calif., in the heart of Sasquatch country.

Bigfoot, Sasquatch, Yeti, Swamp Ape and Bushman are just some of the names used by people around the world to describe a foul-smelling, gigantic but gentle hairy giant that some believe is a missing link to mankind.

The creatures, standing between 8 and 13 feet tall, have been sighted by numerous people around the world over the centuries, from the Himalaya Mountains to the western United States and New England.

"There have been a total of 38 documented sightings in New England, a total of five that I know of in Vermont," Cook said Tuesday.

Cook, a faculty member at Castleton State College, said he has separately interviewed seven Vermont hunters who said they all saw a Bigfoot run across the back road along which they were driving 13 years ago.

And he has a photograph taken by a person gaining evidence for state officials on the ecological impact of new bridge construction in Rutland County that shows an ape-like creature peering out from behind the fall foliage.

The person taking the photograph did not see the creature when he filmed the scene, Cook said. It was not until the photo came back from the lab that the head of an ape-like creature appeared in the background.

That photograph has been blown up to many times its original size and is now undergoing scientific analysis to determine its authenticity, Cook said.

Cook accused other scientists of "ignoring" a species that could better explain humanity and its link to the apes.

"I'm appalled that anthropologists are not solving the problem," he said. Because the scientists are "just not dealing with the problem," Cook said he and long-time Bigfoot hunter Ivan Marx of California intend to "show the people" and let them decide if the creature is real or not.

When news of his interest reached Marx, the hunter approached the professor asking him to serve as a historical consultant and writer for the film. "I didn't pursue it; they pursued me," Cook said of his involvement with the film's makers.

Marx has hunted the creature from his northern California home for many years. An excellent woodsman, according to Cook, Marx has filmed his brief encounters with the creature many times.

"I've asked him the same questions months and years apart and never found an inconsistency," Cook said of Marx's work.

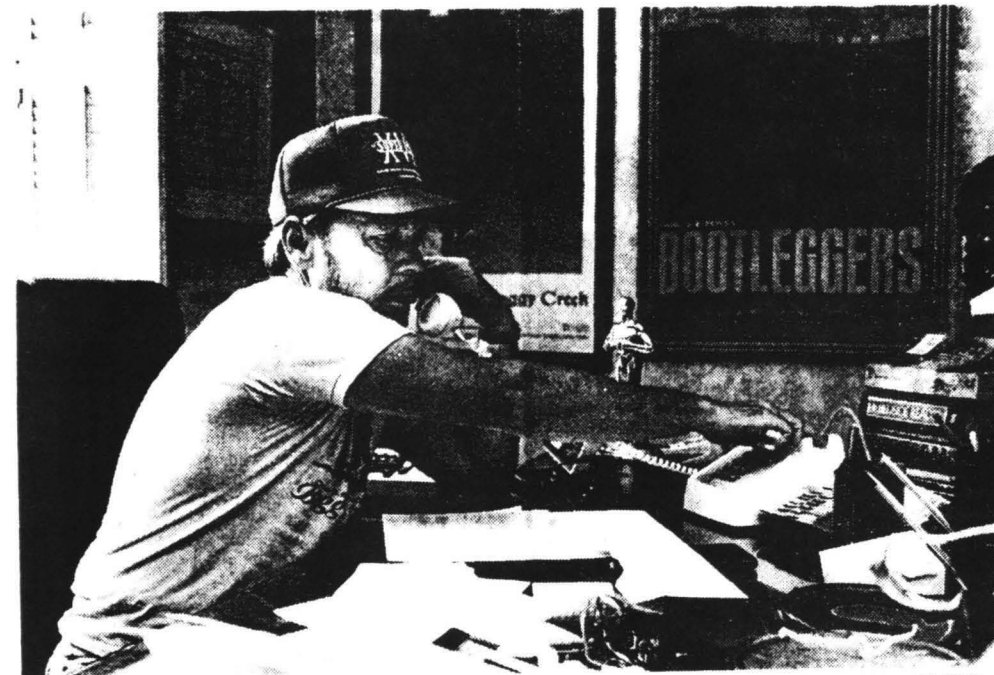
"In my considered opinion having examined these films in great detail I think that Ivan Marx's films and stills are genuine," Cook said. "Based on the weighty evidence, it is my opinion there is an anthropoid living among us as yet not identified as to species."

The hour and 40 minute long documentary contains film and photographs shot by Marx and never seen before, Cook said.

Cook said he is "totally opposed to slaying a Bigfoot because this might tip the balance against the breeding pool." "The death of even one might exterminate these small extended families," he said.

But the documentary does include a scene in which Marx believed he and his wife were being attacked by a Bigfoot. In that sequence, Marx shoots the beast with his rifle and it runs off leaving a trail of blood, Cook said. Marx's wife, Peggy, filmed the sequence, Cook said.

(continued on page 16)



Staff photo by TIM JONES

Charles B. Pierce is ready to begin filming this week on the sequel to "The Legend of Boggy Creek."

(continued from page 15 - DAILY HERALD, Rutland, VT - Sept. 8, 1983)

But Cook said he has passed up chances to camp in the woods and search of a personal encounter of the elusive Sasquatch himself. When a western Washington researcher offered him two weeks in rattlesnake and bear country searching for the creature, Cook said, "That was enough for me. I'd rather review the research that other people publish."

The professor, an internationally recognized author said, "In the beginning I considered it not very likely" that the creatures existed. "What made me believe there was probably some truth to it was that all Indian culture specialists have two or three words to describe them," he said.

Cook was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize for his 620-page book on Latin American history entitled, "Flood Tide of the Empire: Spain and the Pacific Northwest, 1543-1819," and has received several other awards for his work.

"I've approached the subject historically as well as anthropologically," he said. "I'm a scientist and I am doing what all scientists do. I believe that evidence should be paid attention to. At a certain point, one comes to believe certain conclusions are sound."

Cook said he has interviewed people in Vermont, Florida, California and Washington who have sighted the creature.

From photographs, drawings and some bones, Cook said he believes the man-like ape most closely resembles a skull discovered by Mary Leakey classified as *Australopithecus boisei*.

"It's a cosmic creature like the killer whale and Bengal tiger. They are strikingly beautiful and so close to human," Cook said.

The professor will return to Vermont before the end of the month and said he plans on offering a lecture for interested area residents at that time.

On sabbatical from CSC, he plans a trip to Georgia and later South Africa for research on his first love, ancient Vermont.

Motorist reports strange animal

The Associated Press

GRANTS PASS, Ore. - A Nevada motorcyclist told state police he spotted a 7-foot creature resembling the elusive Bigfoot while riding along an interstate highway in the rain.

Paul T. Claywell of Las Vegas pulled off Interstate 5 on Sunday morning and reported to state police he spotted the creature, then continued on his way, state police dispatcher Kathy Wooton said Monday.

"He stated that his headlight hit an animal which was standing upright on its hind legs," Ms. Wooton read from a police log. "It turned and looked at him as he approached it, then turned and ran off the road, still upright."

She said the officer who took the report said that Claywell "was obviously very shook and seemed quite sane when he came in."

Bigfoot is the popular name

for a large ape-like creature, also known by the Indian name Sasquatch, which supposedly roams through forests in the Pacific Northwest.

"He stated that he knew he was tired, but he knew for sure it wasn't a bear because bears usually don't run upright," Ms. Wooton said.

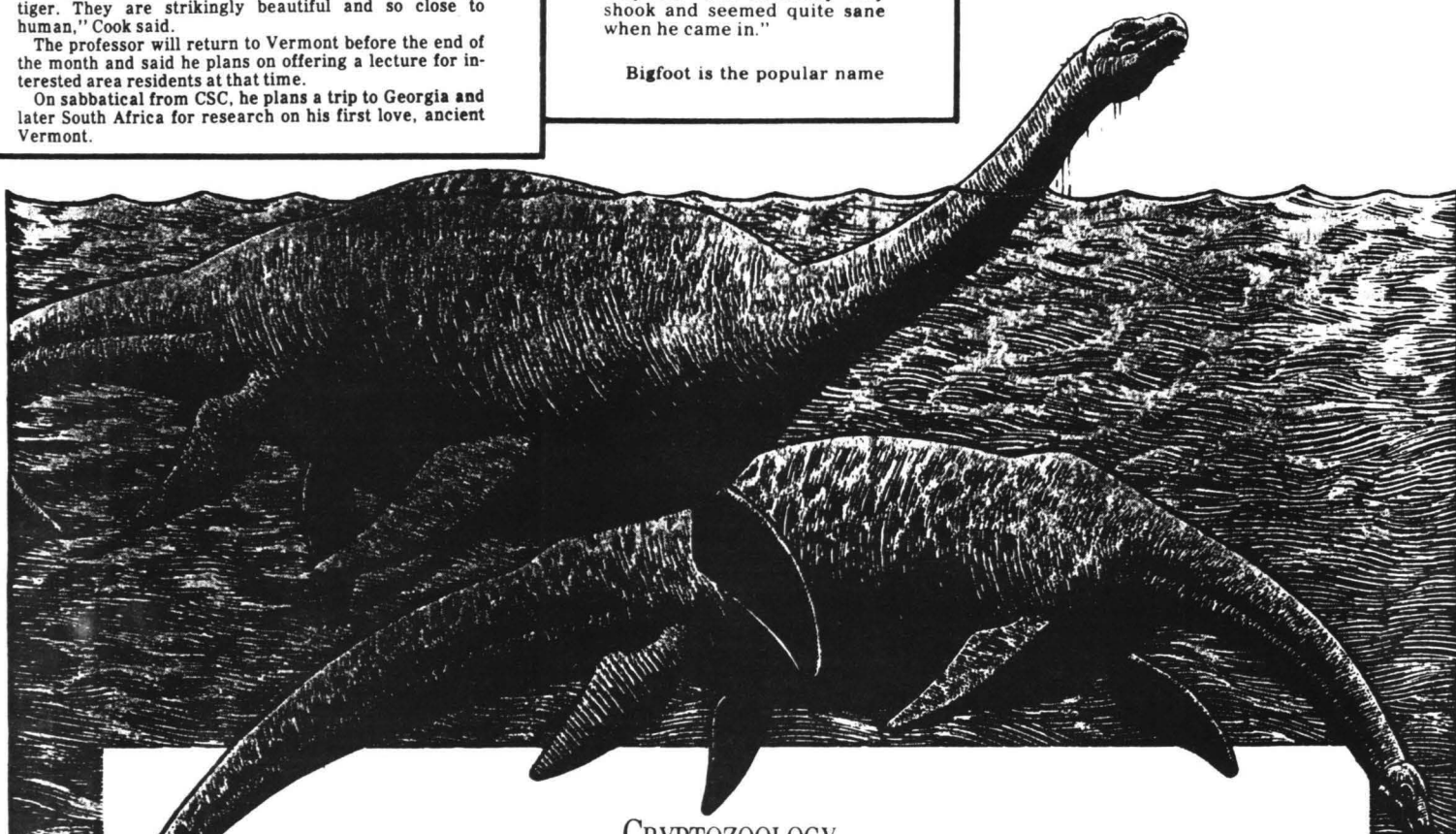
"He stated that the animal ran hunched over, and had long straight hair all over its

body, as well as its face. He stated that he would describe him as the animal called Bigfoot."

Off the freeway, there is a large statue of a caveman at the north entrance to Grants Pass. But Ms. Wooton said it was unlikely Claywell mistook the statue for Bigfoot.

"That wouldn't have run across the road in front of him," she said.

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT, Little Rock, AR - Oct. 25, 1983



CRYPTOZOOLOGY

Searching for unknown creatures

On the trail of Bigfoot and Nessie, researchers strive for scientific recognition

By Colin Nickerson
Globe Staff

NEW YORK - Consider the okapi, a sort of short-necked giraffe once thought to have been extinct for at least 12 million years. Until 1901, that is, when English explorer-naturalist Sir Harry Johnston found the beast frolicking in the forests of the Belgian Congo, now Zaire.

Consider, too, the coelacanth and the Pleistocene peccary.

Scientists once believed that the coelacanth had vanished from the earth 70 million years ago - a notion that had to be hastily revised when fishermen landed a flopping six-foot specimen of the primitive fish off the West coast of Africa in 1939. As for the peccary, no one ever thought that animal extinct for the simple reason that no one ever dreamed it existed in the first place. This entirely new species of mammal was discovered in a South-American thorn desert in 1975.

Fittingly, the okapi has been adopted as the symbol of an organization whose members believe that even stranger animals await discovery. The recently-formed International Society of Cryptozoology - based in Tucson, Arizona - is dead serious about studying creatures that



The plesiosaur, a type of aquatic dinosaur (illustrated above), is generally considered extinct. But some scientists think a few may have survived into the present day, and may account for sightings of the fabled Loch Ness monster and of Champ, the creature sighted in Vermont's Lake Champlain (seen in photograph above).

PHOTO BY SANDRA MANSI / GAMMA/LIAISON

many mainstream scientists refuse to take seriously.

"We are talking about extraordinarily rare animals, animals so scarce that there is hardly a trace of them," said Roy P. Mackal, 57, a University of Chicago biologist who has probed the depths of Loch Ness and the steamy swamps of equatorial Africa in search of unlikely beasts, including the Mokole-Mbembe, a dinosaur-like something described by 18th-century missionaries and present-day natives.

Even scientists who doubt that any wondrous new species remain to be discovered lurking in the depths of Loch Ness or Lake Champlain say the possibilities, however remote, should be explored, although not necessarily with government or university research grants.

"I expect the search will probably be futile; I don't think there is anything there," said Thomas Roos, professor of biology at Dartmouth College. "Still, as long as there are questions, they are worth pursuing. Until one has a clear rationalization for the reports [of creatures in Loch Ness and elsewhere] they should be fair game for scientists."

"Science requires a tolerant attitude," he

(continued on page 17)

GLOBE, Boston, MA - July 11, 1983 CR: G. Farley

ILLUSTRATION BY DOUG SMITH

said. "I would not call cryptozoologists crackpots or screwballs."

Nonetheless, cryptozoology invites skepticism. When the fledgling society held its first public forum here late last month, the agenda read more like something from the pages of a supermarket tabloid than the topics of a scientific forum: "Is There a Giant Octopus?"; "Searching For Mokele-Mbembe"; "Sasquatch and the Walla-Walla Evidence"; and "Closing the Net on Nessie."

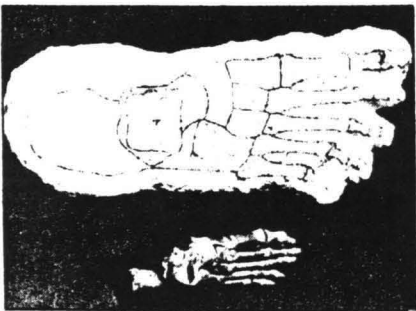
Several of the speakers wore ties embroiled with serpentine sea beasts and the initials "L.N." - for Scotland's Loch Ness, cryptozoology's Mecca - but their lectures were generally more scholarly than sensational.

"Cryptozoology is slowly being recognized as a legitimate branch of science," asserted Bernard Heuvelmans, 66, the Belgian author and zoologist considered the "father of cryptozoology." The term itself, coined by Heuvelmans in the 1950s, means the study of "hidden" animals - animals unknown to science.

"Time makes all things respectable," he said jokingly during a recent interview. "Even those of us who seek after monsters."

"Yes, we have an image problem," said J. Richard Greenwell, a University of Arizona anthropologist and secretary of the society, whose 500 members are mostly scientists and serious-minded amateurs. "There is a crank element and that element has created an overall crank image that we are trying to overcome."

The society's central aim is to investigate reports of "animals of unexpected form or size, or unexpected occurrence in time or space." Which sounds innocuous enough, until you realize that means studying sea serpents, giant octopuses, mysterious lake-dwellers, big-footed hominids, and immense reptiles - kin to dinosaurs - supposedly lurking in the swamps of central Africa.



Plaster cast of "Bigfoot" footprint, shown with bones of human foot for size comparison. AP PHOTO

Mainly because of research done at Scotland's Loch Ness over the past two decades, the existence of "impossible" beasts is now at least being considered by more traditional scientists.

Scientific investigation needed

"The ranks of modern science include a good number of closet cryptozoologists - and some of them are starting to come out," said Greenwell

two days before he was to embark on an expedition to Papua New Guinea in search of the R1, a mermaid-like aquatic something said to inhabit the coastal waters.

"We are not saying that all of these animals definitely exist. Some of them do, I'm sure, and some undoubtedly do not," he said. "What we are saying is that there are reports of phenomena that need to be investigated, scientifically investigated - not just smirked off as unlikely."

The smirking goes on, but so does the search for all manner of bizarre beasts. Some developments along the cryptozoological front:

- Repeated sightings - including 10 in 1982 alone - of a long-necked creature in Vermont's Lake Champlain. Reports of Champ have been buttressed, to some extent, by a color photograph taken in 1977 by Sandra Mansi and widely reprinted. Scientists have concluded that the shot is not a fake, but say they have no idea what the animal is or if it is really an animal.

- The recent discovery in Washington and Oregon of outsized footprints, possibly made by the Sasquatch or "Bigfoot" - a much-publicized creature described by anthropologist Grover Krantz as an "unknown bipedal primate." Plaster castings of the 15-inch prints reveal intricate dermal ridges, toeprints, that researchers believe could not have been faked.

- Nessie, the mysterious denizen of Scotland's Loch Ness, continues to rear its outlandish head. Though sought by sonar, sex lures and even trained dolphins with cameras, the famous monster continues to elude researchers.

Pursuit of the unknown

"Cryptozoologists are a cantankerous bunch - we do not like to be told something is not likely to exist by people who have no way of knowing," said George W. Earley of New Haven, Connecticut, an amateur cryptozoologist whose business card reads, "Science is the pursuit of the unknown."

Even as researchers scour the forests of the Pacific Northwest for Bigfoot, their Chinese counterparts are said to be hot on the spoor of Bigfoot's counterpart: a Himalayan wild thing called the Yeti. Sea serpents, too, are always in season - and over the years they have been sighted from Baltimore to Borneo. More recently, marine biologists have begun pondering reports of six-ton octopuses with 72-foot tentacles (the largest known octopus weighs a measly 125 pounds, with 20-foot tentacles).

Mackal, perhaps this country's best-known cryptozoologist, believes Nessie, Champ and other large, long-necked animals sighted in lakes all around the Northern Hemisphere may be a form of primitive whale that chases migratory salmon into the deep-water lakes. "The evidence seems to suggest a rare, surreptitious cetacean (whale)," he said.

Robert Rines, director of Boston's Academy of Applied Sciences, is more inclined to believe that whatever dwells in Loch Ness is a plesiosaur, a remnant dinosaur. Bernard Heuvelmans, director of the Center for Cryptozoology in La Bugue, France, dismisses both theories as "purely romantic." The way he figures it,

Champ, Nessie and other creatures sighted in lakes from British Columbia to the Soviet Union are actually gargantuan seals with elongated necks.

Mackal, author of "Searching for Hidden Animals: An Inquiry into Zoological Mysteries" has led expeditions into equatorial Africa hoping to find evidence of the Mokele-Mbembe, a dinosaur-like creature described by natives of the area as well as European missionaries and explorers.

He got hooked on monsters (a term he dislikes) after reading accounts of the Loch Ness dweller back in 1965. One thing led to another, and Mackal wound up as director of the Loch Ness Investigation Bureau - a post he held until the late 1970s.

"Some of my colleagues thought I'd gone off the deep end," he acknowledged. "You need thick skin to be cryptozoologist. Laughter has killed more scientific research than anything I can think of..."

Mackal finally stopped actively looking for Nessie - not because he doubted the animal's existence but because he became too convinced of it, losing proper scientific detachment. "I don't think there's a creature in the lake. I know there's a creature in the lake because I've seen the creature in the lake - twice, in fact," he said, describing a dark, smooth-skinned creature that emerged from the depths just a stone's throw from his boat.

"It was an intensely exciting experience, but it destroyed my objectivity," he said.

Tracking an African 'dinosaur'

More recently, Mackal's fascination with unknown animals has taken him up to the Upper Congo, near the Zaire border, where 70,000 square miles of malarial swamp may be home to the Mokele-Mbembe, which is said to resemble a Mesozoic sauroptid, a sort of aquatic dinosaur. During two expeditions to the region, Mackal's party, which included Greenwell, lived on cooked monkey and other culinary delights while contending with steam-bath heat, vicious sand flies and poisonous serpents, including 15-foot-long river jacks, gabon vipers, mambas and African cobras.

In the end, the scientist-explorers found only tantalizing hints: A trail of broken tree limbs and bushes supposedly made by the beast, and the accounts of natives who claimed to have either seen the animal or heard of it.

"They described a large animal with a reddish-brown body and serpentine neck," Mackal said. "They were fearful of it, they said it had overturned canoes and killed people."

Mackal said he doesn't know whether he will return to Africa; but he does intend to continue searching for "hidden" animals of one form or another.

"Even today we know very little about the world we inhabit and the myriad life forms we share it with," he said. "The oceans and other bodies of water are still a mystery, and there are still pockets of unexplored land on our planet - virgin territory from the standpoint of botany and zoology. These areas may contain new species of animals."

DAILY STAR, Shelby, NC - Sept. 16, 1983 CR: T. Beckley

The day the yucko stuff fell to the earth

By Stern Dixon

Here's one from the strange but let's-hope-it's-true department.

Don Rhom, Shelby's water plant engineer, was standing in his backyard Monday afternoon about 1 o'clock when out of the sky fell a mass of partially frozen, brown goop. It landed - splat - on a cement foundation that had just been laid for an outbuilding behind his house.

Rhom, startled by the fallout, first thought the frozen droppings must have come from an airplane, but he neither saw nor heard anything overhead.

Rhom quickly dispelled the bird dropping theory. Nothing of that size (a good half-gallon) and substance (yucko) could have possibly been eliminated by any creature known to land, sea or air. Thinking this could have been the byproduct of an aviation mishap, Rhom called the Federal Aviation Administration's General Aviation District Office in Charlotte and spoke with Aviation Safety Specialist George Uhrin.

Uhrin told him there was a remote possibility that his UFR (unidentified fallen refuse) could be human waste jettisoned either intentionally or unintentionally

from an aircraft. In simple terms, Uhrin said, if there was some kind of valve failure at a high altitude, it could cause the plane to flush its toilet over Rhom's backyard. And, he added, being dropped from a plane flying at a high enough altitude could account for the ice crystals in the stuff.

Uhrin told Rhom that FAA regulations prohibit an aircraft from intentionally dropping anything that could cause injury or damage on the ground, but since there was no damage or injury and since he couldn't identify the source, he had little recourse. He also told Rhom that with as little as he had to go on, finding out where the stuff came from or what exactly it was would be tough.

If Rhom wanted to pursue the matter further, he said, he could contact the control towers at the Charlotte or Atlanta airports for help in determining the type of aircraft that could have bestowed the gift on him.

Rhom thought about that but decided not to spend any more time investigating since no damage was done to either him or his building's foundation.

"As long as I'm not on their regular pattern," he said.

I, however, was intrigued and called the tower in Charlotte. So much for the airliner waste theory.

Ben Wenning, assistant manager for plans and procedures, said that an opening in the plane at an altitude high enough to cause something to freeze, say 10,000 feet, would create big problems for the aircraft because of the pressure difference. Remember the movie "Airport," when the man with the bomb was sucked out of the hole in the plane - same thing.

Wenning also added that there had been no reports of any aircraft with difficulties in the past several days.

On the possibility that the matter could have been something besides waste, or that it could have fallen off the exterior of the plane, Wenning said that would be hard to pin down.

"It's like looking for a needle in a haystack," he said. "On an hourly basis I'd say about 20 planes an hour fly over Shelby."

"Once in a while we get a report of a piece of metal or rubber falling off an aircraft, and we've heard reports by people saying fuel was dumped on them and that their clothes hanging on the line were covered with kerosene, but I don't know about this."

Wenning said there wasn't much else he could do and directed me back to the FAA General Office, saying that Uhrin could possibly tell me something. He even suggested having the droppings analyzed. But since Mrs. Rhom had cleaned up the mess and Rhom had decided to drop it, I decided to cease and desist. Looking for needles in haystacks gives me headaches anyway.

It may never be known what it was that fell to earth Monday, Sept. 12, but it may be a good idea to keep a close watch on the Rhoms' backyard in case anything strange starts to grow.

In the meantime, I'll stick with my theory that someone straffing the skies spit his spent Big Red into his near-spent Big Gulp then chunked the whole thing out of the cockpit.

Two frogs and a ground squirrel, but no meteorites found in field

By LAURA ALBRECHT
Golden Circle Editor

MALONE — When Walter Zettler stood on the front porch of his farmhouse last week watching a morning rainstorm, it was a roar from the sky that caught his attention.

"It was the damnest roar," Zettler said. And it was later that day (July 12) he found two holes in his costal bermuda field that puzzled the farmer.

"I thought at first it (the holes) was caused by those dog-gone seismograph men testing, but there were no tracks from trucks," Zettler said about the holes located 20 feet apart with the diameter of a one-gallon paint can. He reasoned that lightning might have blown the holes in his field.

But to be on the safe side, he called the Hill County Sheriff's Department. A sample of the dirt around the holes was taken and sent to a lab in Austin. The results — a slight reading of radiation in the soil.

A friend told Zettler to call Baylor University where he was put in contact with Calvin Smith, director of the Strecker Museum.

After reviewing photos of the site, Smith thought the holes could have resulted from the crashing of meteorites.

Smith was curious enough to bring with him the assistant director of the museum, a museum researcher, two representatives from the Fort Worth Museum of Science and a representative from the Texas Department of Health Bureau of Radiation Control.

On Thursday, two newspaper reporters, a Baylor University public information official, a TV news reporter and cameraman along with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Zettler sat in the woodframe farmhouse living room waiting.

Smith and his crew were due at the farm, located between Bynum and Irene, at 1:30 p.m. There was a sense of restlessness in the room cooled by the gentle turn of a ceiling fan.

Zettler and his wife calmly responded to inquiries about the holes in their field and their lives.

Yes, Zettler said, he has farmed all his life and has lived in the same house since he was nine years old. The 30 acres where the holes are located are leased from a man in Richardson and he works about 200 acres, growing milo and wheat.

After all the questions had been asked and all the answers answered, a trail of dust was kicked up on the road to Zettler's house and Smith's crew emerged.

The field is located four miles from the house. The caravan sped over the dirt roads hoping this would be the scientific find of the century.

A sweltering Texas sun blanketed the field.

Everyone back, Smith said. Clarence Dittman, Public Health Region Six representative for the Texas Department of Health Bureau of Radiation Control, stepped from his car and headed down to the holes. After a brief check with a radiation monitoring unit, Dittman said it was safe.

Smith with David Lintz, assistant director of the Strecker Museum; Margaret Graham, a researcher with the museum; John Williams and Don Garland of the Fort Worth Museum of Science made their move and were ready to go to work.

For over an hour, they dug, poked, measured and talked.

Was it or wasn't it a site where meteorites (stones from space) had plunged to earth?

The announcement came from Smith. No, it was the opinion of the experts meteorites had not caused the holes.

But what had?

Possibly the drilling device used by a seismograph crew had caused the circular, grooved holes. Or maybe it was an animal.

Whatever it was, Smith and his museum staff wanted a closer look.

For the next three hours, the digging continued.

Smith, covered with dirt and sweat, began to dig. Careful not to damage the original hole, and with the help of Lintz, Smith continued to dig and hope.

Meanwhile, Zettler still wanted to know what had hit the field. He said although the land had been leased for oil exploration, no testing was suppose to be going on at this time. His wife made a phone call to the Houston company that had been conducting tests in the past. No, they had not had any crews on the site and they wanted to know the outcome of the museum's findings.

The use of a backhoe would speed up the digging, but where to find one. Zettler had a neighbor with one and he dashed off to find him. But a few minutes later, Zettler returned with the



Meteor hunting

Strecker Museum director Calvin Smith reaches into a hole that was thought to have been created by a meteorite in a field near Malone. With Smith is John Williams of the

Fort Worth Museum of Science who along with other scientists investigated the site last week. (Sun photo by Laura Albrecht)

news his friend could not be found. Maybe the backhoe would be available for Friday morning, Zettler said, adding he would check with his friend.

In the meantime, Smith continued to dig. Eyes strained from curious onlookers waiting to see anything that might

hint at providing an explanation.

Just when Smith was about to call it quits for the day and wait until Friday morning to use the backhoe, M.W. Wines came rambling through the pasture on his backhoe.

With the touch of a surgeon and direction from Smith, Wines began to dig. Smith several times halted the backhoe digging to continue the tedious job of shoveling himself. The museum staff did find two frogs and one ground squirrel for their digging efforts. But no meteorites.

"There are still too many things left unexplained," Lintz said as he packed soil samples to be tested by the Baylor University chemistry and geology lab.

Although there was a mood of disappointment, Ms. Graham remained optimistic.

"We can't pass things like this up," she said. "It might turn into the find of the century."

She said it was the job of the museum staff to investigate calls of unexplained scientific occurrences.

"We appreciate the call (from Zettler)," Smith said concerning the two holes.

But today Walter Zettler and his neighbors are still wondering what entered his field.

Nessie sinks the big hunt

EVENING EXPRESS, Aberdeen, Scotland — Oct. 13, 1983

THE NESSIE hunting season is finally over with both the strange and scientific expeditions withdrawing their well-worn and wonderful equipment (writes David Love).

This year appeared to be very quiet, with only half a dozen confirmed sightings of the elusive beast.

But the activity on the surface was definitely not matched by the action on the lochside. Adrian Shine of the Loch Ness and Morar project was busy with his sonar equipment and is now studying the tracings.

He plans to return during the winter to take further soundings. He has already published the results of last year's search.

Eric Beckett came over from Seattle, fresh from his unsuccessful quest for Bigfoot — America's answer to the Abominable snowman — with his psychic aide-kick Anya Kurochkin.

They claimed to have exclusive evidence on

their borrowed video system that Nessie had a family.

The rights were sold to Australian and American television after it had been shown on BBC.

Mr Beckett's tape was eventually confiscated by a London police to hand over the material until he had paid his bill. Experts dismissed the evidence as ducks

anyway.

HARPOON

Another American duo, Rickie Radan and Alan Kleier, caused a stir when they arrived with hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of equipment, including a unique harpoon device which could take a sample of any large object which triggered their sonar.

They found nothing — only large fish.

One of the first permanent Nessie hunters, Frank Sears, has also not have a particularly successful year.

His attempts to publish his exploits were foiled by publishers who refused to print his memoirs after allegations that his photographs were taken.

The amateur sleuths also failed to capture Nessie on film.

Allister and Sue Boys from England have been returning for holidays every year since the late 70s after they saw something on the loch.

They want a picture to prove to friends that they were not joking.

Sonar manufacturer Roger Parker of Farnham, who took a sounding of a large animate object in the Highland loch was similarly disappointed.

CAMERA

Only Rip Hepple, a former member of the Loch Ness Investigation Bureau, has been collating movements on the loch and comparing them with reported sightings.

He was able to discount several claims of wakes by proving that ships were in the area at the time.

Veteran monster hunter Tim Dindsdale paid his annual call with his sophisticated camera equipment.

Unfortunately he was unable to repeat his startling film of over a decade ago when he recorded an object travelling across the loch with a boat in the background as a comparison.

And what of scientist Bob Rines of the Academy of Applied Science in the USA?

He is still having difficulty getting equipment, destined for the backs of specially-trained dolphins to work in Loch Ness.

Apparently the only people who have benefited from the lack of Nessie sightings are Loch Ness monster exhibition manager Tony Hartmuth and owner Ronnie Bremner.

They had a bumper year and are planning enlarged exhibition displaying some of the equipment used by the hunters.

A new theory on the Pyramids

Did ancient Egyptians create synthetic stone?

By SYDNEY P. FREEDBERG
Herald Staff Writer

It has stood for nearly 5,000 years, and for almost that long, the Great Pyramid of Giza has puzzled generations of scholars. Theories of how a society with rudimentary tools could pile 2.3 million two-ton cubes of stone 40 stories high have ranged from the sublime to the extraterrestrial.

Now a French industrial chemist says he has found a very simple solution: The pyramid wasn't made of stone at all. It wasn't piled; it was poured.

Dr. Joseph Davidovits claims he has climaxed a

nine-year search into the origins of the pyramids with the discovery of a strand of hair inside a pyramid stone. That hair, he says, proves that the massive blocks used to construct it were man-made and cast like cement, not quarried, hauled, hoisted and swung into place by thousands of workers.

This fall, Davidovits will present his theory — which he believes holds true for the ancient statues on Easter Island and stone monuments in the High Andes — during a lecture series at Barry University

in Miami Shores. He arrives Wednesday at the school, where he has won the support of key administration officials, and will give his first lecture Sept. 19.

But like other radical theories about the pyramids, Davidovits' smacks of heresy to many classical archeologists.

"These monuments have spoken in many tongues to many men through the ages," says Dr. Robert S. Bianchi, associate curator of the department of Egyptology at the Brooklyn Museum in New York. "Now they're trying to speak to Mr. Davidovits in a language or tongue unknown to Egyptologists."

"To me, it's a totally crackpot idea," adds Dr. Ogden Goelet, an Egyptologist at New York University. "It's based on the modern prejudice that the Egyptians weren't capable of these enormous engineering feats."

But Davidovits counters, a bit acidly, that the archeologists are creating "false proofs."

"They are free to think what they think," the 48-year-old self-described workaholic said in a telephone interview from Paris. "I think the facts will demonstrate that I am right and they are wrong."

The Great Pyramid of Giza is considered the definitive work of the pyramid builders, who lived between 4,000 and 5,000 years ago on the banks of the Nile River. Rising in 201 stepped tiers and covering an area the size of seven city blocks, it is said to consist of more stone than all the cathedrals, churches and chapels built in Egypt since the time of Christ — 2.3 million blocks weighing from 2½ tons to 70 tons each.

The builders left no records, but archeologists think the project required an army of 100,000 workers. For 20 years, the mainstream theory goes, they lowered themselves into deep quarries, chipped away at limestone with tempered chisels and saws, hauled them in double rank up construction ramps and swung them into place, one by one, with the aid of derrick-like machinery.

'Book of Stone'

Thus, according to archeologists, eight men could bring 10 stones in three months and 100,000 men could bring 125,000 stones each season.

But in *The Book of Stone*, first published in France in 1978, Davidovits contends that this theory was concocted by historians who lacked real proof and knowledge of chemistry — and were desperate for an explanation.

The book is a detailed account of the scientific attempts to explain the construction of the pyramids. All of them, Davidovits claims, failed as science. Most of them, he says, curiously arrived at the same bogus conclusions about the Egyptians: that they preferred whips and slaves to buckets and spades.

In the chemist's view, the problem with the traditional theory is that it is based on evidence of quarry sites that were not around when the Great Pyramid was erected — and were actually used by the Romans 2,000 years later. In addition, Davidovits does not believe the Egyptians possessed tools capable of cutting hard stone like limestone and granite.

"One has a lot of so-called proof by the official version," says Davidovits, who has a Ph.D. in polymer science [the science of producing materials like those in the mineral kingdom], speaks 10 languages and admits to spending 15-hour days in the library, in the lab or at his typewriter. "But the people who give these proofs mess up all the data."

Trying to fill in the historical gaps, Davidovits began his search 12 years ago. As an industrial chemist for aeronautics and space companies, his original aim was to synthesize a fireproof cement-like substance in his laboratory in Saint Quentin, 90 miles north of Paris.

Then, after discovering "artificial stone," he combined his knowledge of chemistry and longtime love of history to come up with a surprising notion: that the megaliths of antiquity were not enormous carved blocks of stone, but a mineral mixture cast in place, like the one he had synthesized in his lab.

Full-time search

Having visited the Great Pyramid only once, he concluded through a study of the literature that the synthetic stones were formed where they now sit, poured much like modern cement.

Davidovits patented his product, set up the Geopolymer Institute to continue his research, and began a full-time search of documents and scientific evidence to bolster his theory.

Faced with disbelief from mainstream archeologists, he last year tested five small casing stones from the Great Pyramid, each weighing about 300 grams. The stones were given to him by an Egyptologist who defied him to demonstrate that the pyramids were not made of natural stone.

"We have now studied the stones from a chemical and a microscopic point of view," Davidovits declares, "and we have proof they are synthetic" — composed of a limestone fossil-shell concrete molecularly bound and of such high quality that it could not be distinguished from natural stone.

What's more, he says, a 2½-centimeter long black substance encased in one of the stones is purported to be a human hair.

"I saw this substance, and I asked my colleagues, 'What is this? Do you see it?'" Davidovits recalled. "And then I had this thinking, it was a hair, the hair of a human's arm."

The chemist says that he is "98 per cent certain" the thread is indeed a hair, one that perhaps fell into the stuff with which the pyramid was poured.

"We think the mixture was transported in baskets that weighed 20 or 30 pounds," contends Davidovits, who arrives in Miami Wednesday to join the Barry faculty. "It wasn't easy for the Egyptians, but they did not need the 50,000 or 100,000 workers as is assumed. We speculate there were 1,500 workers on site."

"What I have discovered is simple," he continues. "You have to understand things completely differently from the way you're taught them, but once you do, it is easy to understand."

Still, nine years after the first of his discoveries, Davidovits is having a hard time convincing archeologists, some of whom are disposed to dismiss novel theories as the work of "pyramidiots."

Without rejecting his claim completely, and while acknowledging that he may be an excellent scientist, they wonder why millenia-old mysteries would suddenly be revealed to an earthly chemist who has never even visited quarries only a few hundred yards from the Great Pyramid.

"I can understand him asking all the questions, but he's having the same problem a lot of outsiders have," says Dr. Nick Millet, an Egyptologist with the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto. "Even if you can prove that something can be done, even if Davidovits can persuade me that the Egyptians had the capacity to cast these stones, it doesn't mean they did it that way. It just doesn't ring true to us."

Edmund S. Meltzer, an Egyptologist at Claremont Colleges Graduate School in California, agrees.

"We have been wrong before," admits Meltzer. He notes, however, that amateur pyramid experts have included the Arab caliph who speculated that the stones were levitated into place and the British religious zealot who suggested they were positioned by extraterrestrial spaceships.

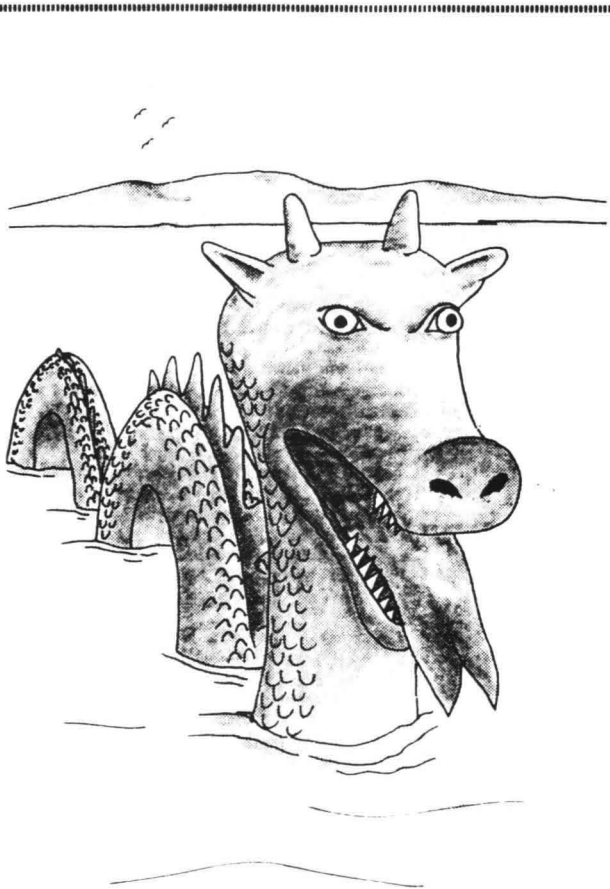
"But unless an awful lot of things are topsy-turvy, I'm quite convinced the pyramid is made of natural stone."

Moreover, the hair that the chemist says he found may prove nothing. "I think various sorts of animal fiber do crop up in stones," says Goelet, the Egyptologist at New York University.

Davidovits, meanwhile, knows it may take years to break open the ruling scientific consensus on Egyptian masonry. He is convinced that his rediscovery of man-made stone — which he calls geopolymer — has "tremendously big" industrial applications, possibly in nuclear and toxic waste storage. He hopes to gain U.S. exposure at Barry, where

(continued on page 20)

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - Oct. 24, 1983 CR: G. Conway



For a million dollars, prove the Lake Okanagan monster exists.

A million rides on lake monster

Staff Reporter

They're putting a \$1-million tag on Ogopogo's tail.

Prove the legendary monster of Lake Okanagan exists, and the money's yours.

"We'd like to get ... it solved once and for all," Dave Hodge said yesterday.

Hodge (a director of the Okanagan-Similkameen Tourism Association, the group arranging the reward) is sure Ogopogo exists

— especially after last week.

"A friend of mine, a well-known businessman, was driving along near Summerland with his young son. The kid shouted, 'Dad! There's Ogopogo!'"

"They pulled over, and the fellow watched it. He said it was like two logs being towed across the lake — only there was no boat."

The man, Hodge said, is in the wine business.

"But he swore he had not had a drink."

(continued from page 19 - HERALD,
Miami, FL - Sept. 11, 1983)

administration officials will establish a Geopolymer Institute to promote research on synthetic minerals.

'True academician'

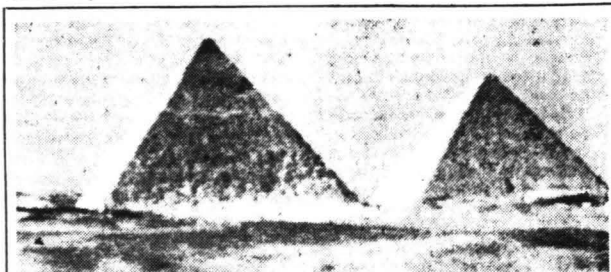
"The man is a true academician," says Sister Jeanne O'Laughlin, Barry's president. "The right or wrong is not what I'm interested in. His appointment [at Barry] simply provides a place for a continuation of the dialogue and an exploration of his theory."

O'Laughlin met Davidovits earlier this year at the home of Barry board member James Stewart, who is also chairman of Lone Star Cement, a Connecticut firm that is the largest cement-maker in the Western Hemisphere.

Lone Star is a true believer. "I have been in the cement business for many years, and this man is for real," says William Kirkpatrick, who does special projects for the firm. "When I met him in France I felt I was talking to a remarkable scientist. It's very easy for us to cling to what was taught to us as children; we have a hard time giving things up."

Kirkpatrick declined to discuss Lone Star's financial relationship with Davidovits, who maintains that his immediate goal is to push back by a few inches the frontiers of man's knowledge.

"At the beginning my motive was industrial," the scientist says. "Now I don't know. I just want to know the truth."



'We have now studied the stones from a chemical and a microscopic point of view, and we have proof they are synthetic.'

Dr. Joseph Davidovits

SUN, Vancouver, B.C., Canada - Aug. 4, 1983

Alleged Sasquatch prints are fakes, says Dahinden

An amateur and an academic are arguing over the authenticity of some alleged Sasquatch footprints.

The plaster cast prints were obtained last year shortly after a U.S. forest service employee, Paul Freeman, claimed he saw an ape-like creature in a mountainous forest area near Walla Walla, Wash.

The academic, Dr. Grover Krantz, associate professor of anthropology at Washington State University, says the prints show skin patterns known as dermal ridges that belong to a higher primate but not an ape or a human.

Krantz is a member of the International Society of Cryptozoology (a group of people interested in "hidden animals") that met last fall at the University of B.C. He told a press conference here at that time that the plaster casts "may be the best set of prints of a Sasquatch ever obtained."

However, the amateur, Vancouver's veteran Sasquatch hunter Rene Dahinden, believes the prints are fakes.

"I've talked to everyone involved in this thing and I write it off 100 per cent. I'm damn mad about it," Dahinden said in an interview Wednesday.

Dahinden went to Walla Walla earlier this year and interviewed Krantz,

Freeman, forest service officials, a game biologist and an experienced tracker with the U.S. border patrol named Joel Hardin. He also looked at reports and photographic evidence.

Dahinden said he believes the prints are fakes because: pine needles had been brushed away from inside the tracks; the prints of forestry staff at the scene sunk more deeply into the mud than the alleged Sasquatch; and a dog and horses brought to the area soon after the alleged sighting showed no reaction to smell.

"You can fool people but you can't fool animals," said Dahinden. "I don't have a PhD, I just use horse sense when I investigate these things."

He was also surprised that Krantz had not interviewed Hardin, who analysed the prints and pronounced them fakes.

But Krantz, in a telephone interview last week, said he didn't talk to Hardin because he found some inaccuracies in the tracker's report. And he insisted that the prints are genuine.

He said: "The top fingerprint experts in the U.S. have looked at them and say they are not faked and they are definitely from a higher primate."

CHRONICLE, San Francisco, CA - Nov. 3, 1983 CR: W. Thompson

Sea Serpent Captured On Paper

By Steve Rubenstein

A 100-foot-long sea serpent was sighted off Stinson Beach by five people who had not been drinking.

"It was black with three humps," said Matt Ratto, who got the best look.

The five witnesses, all members of a construction crew who were repairing a stretch of Highway 1 on a cliffside overlooking the ocean, said the serpent surfaced on Monday shortly before 2 p.m.

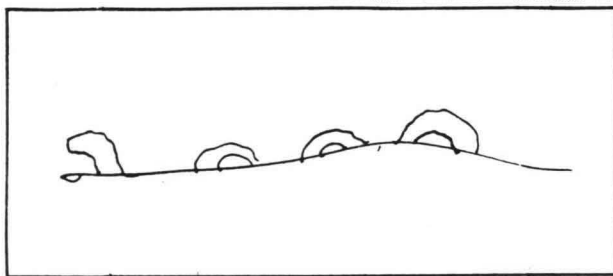
A flagman named Gary saw it first. He said the serpent was swimming toward the cliff from Duxbury Point, five miles away. He called Ratto, another flagman, on his two-way radio and told him to grab his binoculars.

By that time, both men said, the serpent was 100 yards offshore and less than a quarter-mile away. It was being followed by about 100 birds and two dozen sea lions.

"The body came out of the water first," said Ratto, who said he stared at it through binoculars the crew keeps on hand to watch nude sunbathers on the beach below during their lunch break.

"There were three bends, like humps, and they rose straight up," he said. "Then the head came up to look around."

"It looked like this," he said, grabbing a pen and sketching a snake-like creature with a rounded



Highway 1 construction flagman Matt Ratto and his drawing of the Stinson Beach sea serpent (inset)

head and a blunt nose.

Ratto said the serpent turned around, lowered its head beneath the waves and swam out to sea. As it swam, it gradually lowered its humps below the surface until it was no longer visible.

Another witness, truck driver Steve Bjora, said the serpent was moving as fast as a car.

"That sucker was going 45 to 50 miles an hour," Bjora said. "It was clipping. It was boogying. It looked like a long eel."

Marlene Martin, a safety inspector for the Department of Transportation, also saw the Stinson Sea Serpent. She was unavailable for comment yesterday, but her daughter, Tina, said, "Mom

came home and told us it was the biggest thing she ever saw in her life, and my Mom doesn't lie. She said it made 'Jaws' look like a baby."

Ratto said he doesn't lie, either.

"Look," Ratto said. "I'm not a psycho. I'm a regular guy. If I was going to make up something, I'd make up something like a 12-foot Mickey Mouse with five arms."

Nonetheless, the Stinson Sea Serpent was proving yesterday to be as difficult to describe as it was to capture.

Bjora, for example, said the serpent had two humps. Ratto said three humps and Tina Martin said her mother had specified four humps.

Jack Swenson, a biologist at the nearby Point Reyes Bird Observatory, said there have been periodic sightings of strange creatures off the Marin County coast and that "no one ever figures out what these sightings are."

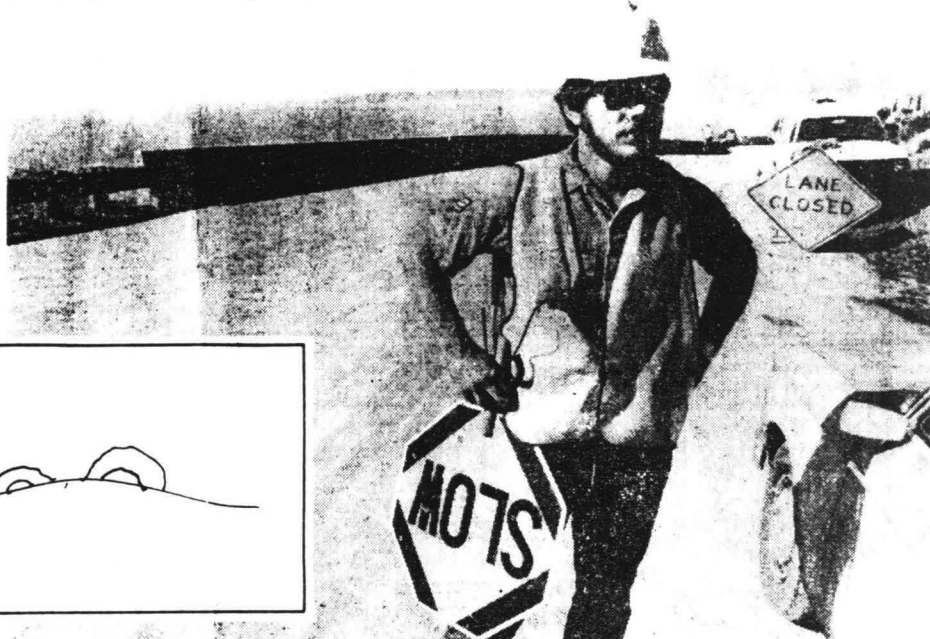
"A whale surfacing in backlit sunlight, silhouetted with a lot of glare, could look like the Loch Ness monster. On the other hand, there may be all sorts of prehistoric creatures swimming around out there that we know nothing about."

Ratto said he was sure the creature was not a whale, a porpoise or a submarine.

"There's no way it could have been a whale or a porpoise," Ratto said. "and it was too graceful to be a

machine.

"Anyway," he added, "a submarine doesn't have a head."



By Peter Breinig